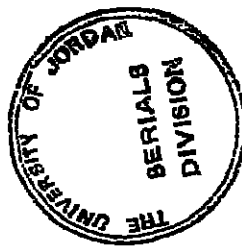


## Lithuanian leader warns Kremlin

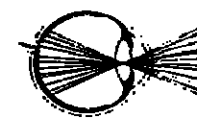
MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuania asked Soviet officials Tuesday to restore fuel supplies to a power station connected to a nuclear plant, saying the station had been hit by an accident at the nuclear plant, Vilnius Radio reported. Lithuania is suffering a blockade of oil and other raw materials imposed by the Kremlin to force the Baltic republic to rescind its declaration of independence. Lithuanian President Pranas Lubinas said in a letter to President Mikhail Gorbachev and Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov, "As a result of the Soviet Union's blockade on supplies of fuel and raw materials to Lithuania, reserves of fuel have run out at the Lithuanian nuclear power station, which is a component part of the Ignalina nuclear power station," the letter said. "The situation at the Ignalina nuclear power station could lead to an accident at the atomic power station. It will therefore be necessary to halt the operation of the atomic power station."

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرائي.



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## Japan slams Israel's brutality

AMMAN (J.T.) — In an address to the Amman Rotary Club meeting Tuesday, Tadayuki Nonoyama, Japanese ambassador to Jordan, said the May 20 massacre of eight Palestinians by an Israeli gunman was a brutal act. He also denounced the excessive reaction by the Israeli authorities to the subsequent situation which caused heavy additional casualties in the occupied territories. He said that the root cause of these incidents was the fact that peace in the Middle East remained unrealized, and the principles of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 had not been implemented. He urged Israel to withdraw from all the territories it occupied since 1967 and to seek a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

## Vatican trying to mediate in Mideast conflict

ROME (R) — The Vatican is trying to mediate in the Arab-Israeli conflict and arrange peace talks, according to Michel Sabbah, Roman Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem. "The Catholic church is now trying the road on international diplomatic mediation with the objective of summoning a peace conference," he said in an interview to be published Wednesday by the Italian Catholic weekly Famiglia Cristiana. Transcripts of the interview were made available to Reuters Tuesday. "It (the Vatican) is in contact with all the powers which can influence Israel and Palestinians to arrive at peace," added Sabbah, who said Arab and Israeli leaders of Jerusalem.

## Israel to cut water supplies

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel will cut water supplies to all consumers after an unusually dry winter, water commissioner Zehava Ishai said. Added to an earlier reduction, the new cut means that some areas of Israel will receive 20 per cent less than their usual annual supply. Agriculture, which uses more than 70 per cent of the country's water, will be the hardest hit, Ishai said. He said that unless farmers used sewage water, instead of fresh water, for irrigation, they would have no choice but to drop citrus crops, long a key Israeli export. Some government officials and experts say water use should be trimmed by twice as much. But Ishai said the cutback would ensure that reservoir levels did not fall too low.

## De Klerk postpones U.S. trip

CAP TOWN (AP) — President F.W. de Klerk said Tuesday he has postponed his visit to the United States to avoid controversy over whether he or African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela would meet first with the American president. Neither the United States nor the South African government had announced a date for de Klerk to meet President George Bush in Washington. U.S. media had reported a date of June 18. Black American organizations and the ANC office in Washington said it was a snub for Bush to meet de Klerk before meeting Mandela, due to arrive in the United States June 20.

## East and West sign charter for bank

PARIS (R) — Finance Ministers from East and West signed Tuesday the charter of a new bank to help reconstruct the tattered economies of Eastern Europe, launching what French President Francois Mitterrand called an historic mission. Forty nations, including the United States, Japan and the Soviet Union, signed articles of agreement for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), setting the seal on eight months of at times heated negotiations. Mitterrand described the bank as a major new international institution which would link East and West now that the formerly communist states of Eastern Europe were finally free to choose their own destiny.

# S. Arabia will not abandon Jordan — Prince Faisal

From Lamis Andoni in Baghdad

A SENIOR Saudi Arabian official said Tuesday that his country would continue its support for Jordan amid reports that the Gulf states have decided against any new commitment for annual fixed financial aid to the Kingdom and the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

"We will not abandon Jordan," Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal said. "This will be included in the summit's resolutions," he told the Jordan Times.

Arab officials said a meeting of the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Tuesday morning decided to support Jordan but not to make a collective commitment for annual financial aid to any party, including Jordan and the Palestinians.

"They decided to leave it to

bilateral agreements between each GCC country and the concerned recipient," said one official.

Prince Faisal refused to disclose any specific details about Saudi financial aid to Jordan but other political sources said that Riyadh will give \$650 million in financial aid to the Kingdom.

The figure could not be confirmed but other Arab delegations said that none of the Gulf states was ready to make a commitment of any specific figure.

In a speech to the summit Monday, His Majesty King Hussein called for immediate financial help to Jordan to enable the Kingdom to counter Israel's threats.

Asked if Riyadh was ready to make annual commitments to Jordan or the Palestinians, the Saudi foreign minister smiled and said: "You shall read everything in the final communi-

que (of the summit)."

Prince Faisal also refused to state his country's position on pledges made at the 1988 Algiers summit and reiterated at the Casablanca summit in 1989 to extend financial support for the Palestinian intifada. "We shall discuss all of these issues at the final session tonight," he said as he was walking out of Hotel Rashid to the conference hall.

Pressed by the Jordan Times to answer whether there was a Saudi decision regarding Jordan, the prince said: "His Majesty King Hussein has made the point very clear concerning the situation in Jordan, and we do understand the situation."

Political sources expected the final session to witness heated debates on the financial aid issue since host Iraq is leading a campaign to secure financial help for Jordan and the intifada.

# ACC formally welcomes new Yemen into its ranks

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) welcomed the newly united Yemeni Republic into its ranks Tuesday in place of the defunct North Yemeni state.

Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen set up the ACC in February last year but North Yemen merged with South Yemen last week to form the new state.

The heads of state of the four countries — His Majesty King Hussein and Presidents Saddam Hussein of Iraq, Hosni Mubarak

of Egypt and Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen — took part in the ceremony on the sidelines of an Arab summit in Baghdad.

Saleh was president of North Yemen before the merger.

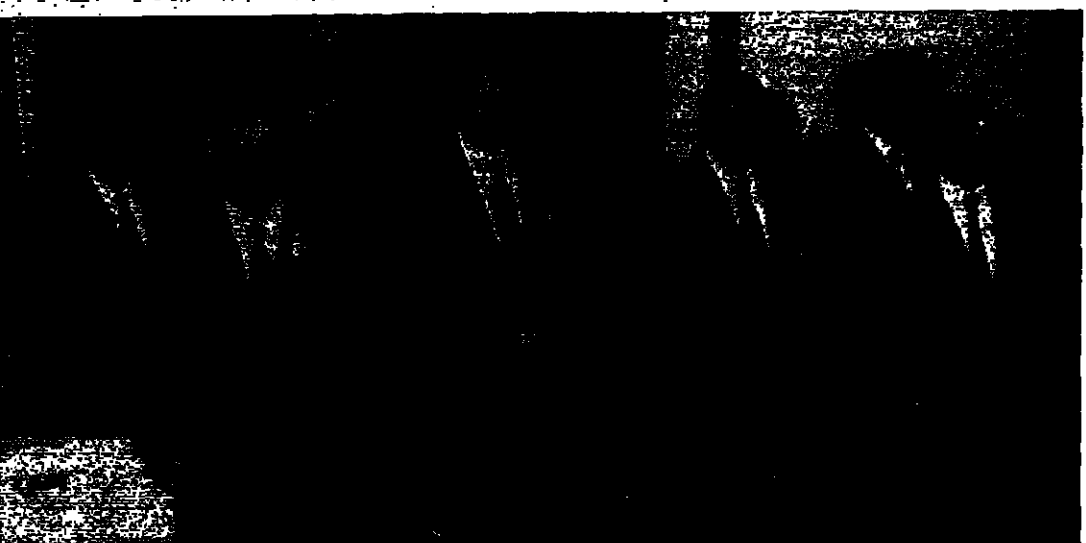
ACC Secretary General Helmi Nammur told a news conference that the grouping's next regional summit would take place in Baghdad on Oct. 22. Foreign ministers would hold a preparatory meeting in Amman on Sept. 8.

At Tuesday's meeting, King Hussein voiced happiness and

deep satisfaction over Yemeni unity, describing it as a great national and pan-Arab achievement.

The King expressed hope that the united Yemen would serve as a step on the path of achieving Arab unity and integration and pledged Jordan's full support for Yemen at the various political fora.

King Hussein said that the "Arab Nation and the whole world has started to live a new era of Arab history."



The four leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council — His Majesty King Hussein, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni

Mubarak and Republic of Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Baghdad Tuesday (Petra wirephoto)

# Gorbachev calls for help in creating new Europe

OTTAWA (Agencies) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, looking relaxed and smiling despite his domestic worries, started a visit to Canada Tuesday with an appeal to Western nations to help him create a new Europe.

"We want to be partners with Canada and other Western nations in building a new European home," Gorbachev said in an arrival speech at Ottawa's Up-lands Air Force Base.

The Soviet president, on a brief and low-key visit to Canada ahead of a summit meeting with President George Bush, showed little outward signs of the gruelling schedule he has kept in the past week to deal with mounting troubles at home.

Even as he flew to Canada, Gorbachev suffered another blow with the news that his bitter critic Boris Yeltsin had been elected president of the Russian Federation, the Soviet Union's largest republic (see page 8).

Gorbachev had four hours of talks scheduled with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and the two were expected to focus mainly on international issues.

Gorbachev and his wife, Raisa, stepped down from their Illyushin

62 aircraft, passing between two red-coated Royal Canadian Mounted Policemen to be greeted by Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn and Mulroney.

"This is a time of dramatic change in the world," Gorbachev said, noting that he and the prime minister would cover a wide range of subjects, including developments in Europe and the Arctic.

"It is our hope that this Soviet-Canadian summit will bring us to a new level of cooperation," said Gorbachev.

Mulroney met Gorbachev just six months ago when he made the first official visit to the Soviet Union by a Canadian prime minister in 18 years. It is Gorbachev's second visit to Canada, but his first as Soviet leader. He visited the country in 1983 when he was agriculture secretary.

Gorbachev left Moscow accompanied by officials including Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze and Deputy Premier Yuri Maslyukov, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported.

He arrived in Ottawa at midday and planned to go directly to a private lunch at the prime

minister's official residence. Later, Gorbachev was to meet Governor-General Hnatyshyn, the appointed representative of Queen Elizabeth II.

Wednesday is to feature a wreath-laying ceremony at the national war memorial followed by another meeting with Mulroney. A brief news conference with Mulroney is to precede Gorbachev's departure for Washington.

The relatively light schedule during his 29-hour stopover in Ottawa should give Gorbachev and his entourage an opportunity to adapt to the eight-hour time change before their arrival in Washington late Wednesday.

Both Soviet and Canadian officials insisted there were substantive international issues to be discussed during Gorbachev's stopover in Canada.

Canadian foreign policy experts say they are interested in the Soviet view of the new Europe, the changing roles of alliances like the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the more prominent roles of organisations like the 35-member Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.



His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday meets with King Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia on the fringes of the Arab summit in Baghdad (Petra wirephoto)

# Most resolutions endorsed; logjam remains over U.S.

From Lamis Andoni in Baghdad

ARAB LEADERS gathered here for an emergency summit Tuesday endorsed most of the draft resolutions but differences persisted on the nature and wording of a proposed reply to an American memorandum to the Arab League and resolutions referring to the U.S., summit sources said.

Officials said that the summit, which was extended until Wednesday to conclude all its deliberations, had abandoned the idea of sending a memorandum to U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev who are scheduled to meet in Washington Thursday.

According to summit sources, it appeared almost certain that an Egyptian proposal to rid the Middle East of nuclear and chemical weapons would be dropped after opposition from Iraq and its supporters at the conference of the 21 members of the Arab League who are meeting here to discuss the threats inherent in Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the Iraqi-Israeli nuclear/chemical stand-off.

The sources told the Jordan Times that in a closed session Tuesday, the Arab leaders endorsed draft resolutions calling for increased support for the intifada, rejecting Israeli claims that "united Jerusalem" is its "eternal, indivisible capital," denouncing Israel's policy of settling immigrants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and

urging the deployment of international forces to protect the Palestinians living in the occupied territories.

According to the sources, the Arab leaders remained divided over whether the summit should clearly endorse a decision to pressure the United States to change its position on the Palestinian problem and other Arab causes, or to keep the door open for "further efforts for mutual understanding."

In his keynote address to the summit, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein clearly called on the Arab leaders to adopt a tough position towards Washington "if it did not prove its friendship with the Arab World." But, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak mounted a campaign in the opposite direction urging the Arab leaders "not to allow the issue of Jewish immigration to be a source of conflict with one or more country."

During Tuesday's closed session, the sources said, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia strongly supported the Egyptian push. "The Saudis were even more pressing in their reservations over any move to mount Arab pressure on the U.S. or any other country," said a source. "They argued that such pressures might backfire," according to the source.

However, Mubarak intervened to support the argument that "some form of pressure be applied provided that such pressure does not antagonise the U.S. or any other country," said the source.

Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), meanwhile, pursued their drive for a tougher position towards the U.S. "If Washington continued its support for Israel and persisted in its disregard for Palestinian and Arab rights," officials said.

While Egypt and Saudi Arabia sought to avoid any explicit negative reference to the United States in the final communiqué of the summit, Iraq and the PLO were aiming at such an objective and the endorsement of a resolution which "upholds the military option" to resolve the Middle East conflict, said an official, who asked that he not be identified.

These differences were seen as the main reason behind the decision not to send written memoranda to Bush and Gorbachev. The summit would confine itself to resolutions instead of sending such memos, the official said.

The wrangle over the Arab approach to the United States was sparked by a 16-page memo that the administration sent to the Arab League prior to the convening of the summit. The memo criticised what the U.S. sees as a threatening military build-up but considered by the Arabs as Iraq's legitimate right to develop its military technology and urged that anti-American rhetoric be excluded from any of the summit resolutions or the final communiqué.

This appeared to have infuriated President Saddam Hussein.

(Continued on page 5)

# Hurd arrives today

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd arrives here Wednesday on a two-day visit during which Jordanian leaders will discuss with him the latest situation in the Middle East and the stalled peace process in the region.

"Mr. Hurd's visit was in the cards for a long time," said a British embassy official. "The invitation was extended to Mr. Hurd by (Deputy Prime Minister and) Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem some time back," added the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

According to the official, the British minister is "not carrying any new ideas or plans" to advance the peace process, but "will listen to the Jordanian views on the situation." Anglo-Jordanian relations in various fields are also expected to be discussed during the minister's talks here.

Hurd, who is scheduled to arrive late in the evening, is expected to hold talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Foreign Minister Qasem as well as Parliament speakers and members. It was not clear Tuesday when the meetings would be held since both the prime minister and foreign minister are currently in Baghdad and expected to return home late Wednesday or early Thursday after the conclusion of an emergency Arab summit in the Iraqi capital.

According to the British embassy official, Hurd may also be received by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.



Douglas Hurd

for Saudi Arabia Thursday evening. He will hold a press conference before departure.

It will be the first visit of Hurd to Jordan after switching over to the Foreign Office portfolio from the Home Office to succeed Geoffrey Howe who left the cabinet of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in a reshuffle last year.

British generally supports Jordan's stand towards the Middle East conflict, and through the European Community (EC) supports the call for an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict with the participation of all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Following the PLO's November 1988 recognition of Israel and renunciation of terrorism, the British government upgraded its contacts with the organisation. Bassam Abu Sharif, a senior aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, visited London on several occasions since then and met with British government officials. But a meeting between Thatcher and Arafat has not yet taken place.

(Continued on page 5)

# Egypt to host regular summits

From Lamis Andoni in Baghdad

SAUDI ARABIA has given the right to host the next ordinary Arab summit to Egypt, according to Arab officials.

They said that during Tuesday's closed session of the emergency Arab summit here, the Arab leaders decided to hold regular summits at the new Arab League headquarters in Egypt unless another country was ready to host emergency summits as and when warranted.

"At that point the Saudis announced that the next ordinary Arab summit will be held in Egypt," an official said.

Saudi Arabia was chosen as the venue for the next regular Arab summit when the last regular summit was held in 1982 in the Moroccan city of Fez. But since then Arab differences and urgent issues have compelled the convening of five extra-ordinary Arab summits; Casablanca (1985), Amman (1987), Algiers (1988), Casablanca (1989) and finally the current one in Baghdad, which opened Monday. Political analysts believe that the Saudi decision reflected the growing coordination between Riyadh and Cairo, both of whom strongly opposed confrontation with the U.S. at the Baghdad summit.

But other Arab officials said that Riyadh was also trying to avoid hosting an Arab summit as long as Arab differences prevailed, especially between Iraq and Syria.

In the past the Saudis have clearly refused to host any summit prior to "solving the various inter-Arab disputes."

# Israelis attack Arabs; mother of 10 killed in Nablus

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Dozens of Israeli youths Tuesday stoned cars belonging to Palestinians and shouted "Death to the Arabs" following the funeral of an Israeli killed in a bomb attack.

The man was killed in Monday's bomb blast in Jerusalem's Mahane Yehuda market. Responsibility for the attack was claimed in anonymous telephone calls to news agencies by two Palestinian groups.

The car stonings erupted despite a heavy police presence it lasted some 90 minutes before police dispersed the protesters.

About a dozen Arab cars were stoned and some had their windows shattered, but there were no reports of injuries. During the incident, police turned back Arab motorists and detained two Israeli youths.

The stonings began about 15 minutes after a procession of several hundred Israelis went to the cemetery where the victim of Monday's pipe-bomb explosion was buried. Nine other Israelis were injured in the blast.

Faisal Al Hussein, a prominent Palestinian leader, condemned the pipe-bomb attack and said the PLO was not behind it.

"It don't know who carried out this attack but I condemn any attack against citizens whoever they may be and I condemn whoever stands behind this attack," he told re-

porters. In an anonymous call to a Western news agency in Jerusalem, a man who spoke in Arabic claimed responsibility for the bombing in the name of the Islamic Jihad fundamentalist group.

The caller said the bombing was in revenge for the May 20 massacre of eight Arab labourers by an Israeli gunman. "Israel still doesn't understand any other language except fire and steel," the caller said.

Islamic Jihad claimed the Feb. 4 attack on a tourist bus in Egypt in which nine Israelis died and 21 were wounded.

Monday's blast was also claimed by a Damascus-based Palestinian faction headed by Abu Musa, who broke away from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

In the West Bank town of Nablus, Arab reports said a 42-year-old Palestinian housewife died Tuesday after being wounded the day before by an army bullet while cleaning her house.

Neighbours told reporters Budor Karada, the mother of 10 children ranging in age from three to 22, was struck in the nose by a rubber-coated metal bullet that came through the window.

They said soldiers had opened fire on Palestinians who ambushed a patrol with stones near the house in the Ras Al Ain neighbourhood.



## Hussein, Rafsanjani may hold face-to-face talks on Gulf peace

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani could meet for face-to-face peace talks to formally end the Gulf war in the next few weeks, a senior PLO official reported Tuesday.

He said Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat will fly to Tehran this week, pursuing a bid to set up direct peace talks and end a rift between Iran and Saudi Arabia, senior officials said.

"The chairman will go to Tehran immediately after the Arab summit," expected to end in Baghdad Wednesday at the latest, one Palestinian official said.

"Barring last-minute complications, direct summit talks between Saddam and Rafsanjani will be under way after a month," he noted.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus, earlier Tuesday quoted Iranian Parliament Speaker Mehdi Karubi as saying that Saddam and Rafsanjani may meet, but he gave no time frame.

The PLO official disclosed that Arafat, attending an Arab summit in Baghdad, has sent two messages to Iran's supreme leader, Ali Khamenei, and Rafsanjani in recent days, urging them to respond "quickly and positively" to Iraq's offer for direct peace talks.

The resolution calls for the withdrawal of both sides to international recognised boundaries, an exchange of prisoners, and dredging the Shatt Al Arab Waterway of war debris.

The waterway, formed by the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers, forms the southern boundary between the two countries.

Iraq's claim over the strategic waterway was the main stumbling block in peace talks which began five days after the ceasefire.

Four rounds of United Nations-sponsored talks, the last in April 1989, have failed to break that deadlock.

According to press reports in Tehran and Kuwait, the Iraqi letters concede for the first time that the sovereignty of the Shatt Al Arab is negotiable.

Baghdad says it abrogated 1975 treaty that drew the border down the middle of the waterway, giving Iran full navigation rights for the first time.

Iran insists the treaty is still valid and insists that Baghdad withdraw its troops from Iranian territory captured in the closing stages of the war.

In Baghdad, where Arab leaders are holding an emergency summit, diplomats reported

that the indirect dialogue between Saddam and Rafsanjani has raised hopes that a peace treaty will soon be agreed.

They quoted Rafsanjani as telling Saddam that Iran would support Iraq if Israel attacked Iraq.

The Soviet Union has offered to host direct negotiations between Iran and Iraq, outside the framework of the United Nations. Both have indicated willingness to accept the offer, the diplomats said.

Rafsanjani and Saddam both are under pressure to reach an accommodation.

Iran needs stability to carry out massive reconstruction and revitalize its economy. Since Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini died last June, Tehran has quietly dropped its demands for massive war reparations and an Iraqi admission it started the war in September 1980 by invading Iran.

Iraq needs to reopen its major port at Basra on the Shatt Al Arab, closed since the war began, and is under domestic pressure to reach an agreement that will bring back its 50,000 prisoners of war.

Another spur toward reviving the peace talks is Iraq's fear that Israel plans to launch pre-emptive strikes against Baghdad's burgeoning military might.

Press reports in the Middle East said Saddam suggested to Rafsanjani that the two countries form an Islamic alliance against

the Jewish state.

Iraq and Iran have agreed that the U.S. military presence in the volatile Gulf region is a threat to their security and should be removed, Arab diplomats said Tuesday.

The diplomats, insisting on anonymity, said that the two countries reached agreement in a recent exchange of letters between their leaders.

Officials gathered in Baghdad for the Arab summit believe that the perceived threat posed by Israel is acting as a catalyst that appears to be edging Gulf war foes Iran and Iraq toward a peace treaty.

Saddam, apparently prompted by a concerted campaign by Israel and the West against him, has sent two letters to the Tehran leadership in the last month.

He noted his concern about a possible pre-emptive Israeli strike against Iraq amid Western accusations Baghdad is amassing a major arsenal of long-range missiles and chemical weapons and is seeking to build a long-range "super gun" capable of firing rocket-boosted shells capable of hitting Israeli cities.

He mentioned the possibility that U.S. warships patrolling the Indian Ocean and the Gulf might be used as a launching pad for such an attack or to cover any Israeli operation, the diplomats said.

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## Arabs seek to boost Lebanon peace plan

BAGHDAD (AP) — The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco, in Baghdad for an emergency Arab summit, were striving Tuesday to bolster a peace treaty to end Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war, conference sources reported.

The ministers formulated the peace accord last year. It was endorsed by Lebanon's parliament in a special session in the Saudi Arabian resort of Taif last October, but so far it has not been implemented because of Christian opposition.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the ministers were determined to have clear-cut support for the peace plan by the summit.

The sources said that Prince Saud of Saudi Arabia, Sidahmad Ghazali of Algeria and Abdul Latif Filali of Morocco met late Monday to draw up a statement on Lebanon to be submitted to the heads of state when they reconvene the summit Tuesday.

The conference is hosted by Iraq, which has supplied the Christians with arms in a bid to thwart the ambitions of Syria in Lebanon.

Syria, which has 40,000 troops deployed in Lebanon under a 1976 Arab League peacekeeping mandate, is the main power broker in that country and has said it supports the peace plan.

The biggest obstacle to implementing the peace accord is rebel Gen. Michel Aoun, a Maronite Catholic and Lebanon's former army commander and caretaker premier.

He rejects the plan, which gives the majority Muslims an equal share of power with the long-dominant Christians, because it does not guarantee a Syrian military withdrawal.

Aoun has been fighting his main Christian rival, militia chieftain Samir Geagea, since Jan. 30 for mastery of the Christian enclave north of Beirut where the government's writ does not run.

The statement will call for support for the Syrian-backed Lebanese government of Elias Hrawi and his efforts to extend its authority over the whole country, the sources reported.

It was not clear how the summit, whatever its resolutions, can help Hrawi do that.

The Saudi, Algerian and Moroccan foreign ministers form an Arab League mediation committee on Lebanon set up at the last Arab summit in Casablanca, Morocco, a year ago.

President Hafez Assad of Syria, whose troops control about two-thirds of Lebanon, has boycotted the summit held in the capital of his archrival in the Arab World, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Hrawi, his government dependent on Syrian backing, also failed to attend the summit.

The 16 heads of state attending the two-day-old summit were expected to endorse the foreign ministers' statement before the conference ends.

Lebanon was not on the agenda of the summit drawn up last week.

But the conference sources said the situation in war-torn Lebanon has been raised in informal discussions between Arab leaders.

## Lebanese strike to protest against war; Aoun-Geagea clashes continue

BEIRUT (AP) — Most of Lebanon came to a standstill Tuesday in a general strike called to demand an end to the 15-year-old civil war and anti-inflation measures by the largely powerless government.

Shortly before dawn, rival Christian forces loyal to rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and militia chieftain Samir Geagea clashed with mortars for two hours in east Beirut, violating a 12-day-old ceasefire in their four-month-old power struggle.

No casualties were reported. But the clashes undermined the deep-rooted hostility between the rival forces despite the truce.

The ceasefire has generally held since it took effect on May 17, despite minor violations. But informed sources do not believe the power struggle will end until a political settlement is reached between the two leaders, which is considered a remote possibility by many.

The one-day strike, called by the General Federation of Labour Unions, was largely symbolic. Lebanon's economy, once the most flourishing in the Middle East, is in tatters.

About 10,000 people staged a two-hour demonstration across Muslim west Beirut, chanting slogans demanding better wages, better social services and better security.

"We have no water. We have no food. We have no electricity. We have no schools," the demonstrators chanted.

"Security produces bread. We want security," they shouted, shaking their fists in the air.

Police said no violence was reported during the demonstration. Similar peaceful protests were held in the Christian port of Jounieh, north of Beirut, the southern provincial capital of Sidon and the northern town of Tripoli.

The people of divided Beirut and the Christian enclave north of the city have been without electricity and water supplies since Aoun and Geagea began fighting on Jan. 30 in an inconclusive power struggle for control of the enclave.

The main power station in Zouk and the water pumps in Dbyeh north of Beirut were destroyed in the heavy intra-Christian fighting, in which at least 1,035 people have been killed and 2,770 wounded.

Lebanon's parliament endorsed an Arab League-brokered peace accord to end the war last October. But the limping government of Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi, like earlier administrations, has been unable to restore order.

Muslim regions observed the strike. But on the Christian side, it was only observed in the 60 per cent of the enclave controlled by Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia.

The shutdown was ignored in areas controlled by Aoun's

19,000 troops in the southern sector of east Beirut and the Metn Mountains.

The National Coordination Bureau, the Civil Administration Agency in Aoun's territory, declared Tuesday "a normal working day" and said: "The strike is not a positive way to combat soaring prices."

Nonetheless, government departments, banks, schools, businesses and shops closed in other areas. Hospitals, pharmacies, bakeries and newspapers were exempted.

The federation said in a statement that the Christian-Muslim civil war that erupted in 1975 "has displaced us and destroyed our homes and property... let's strike against the leaders of this war."

"People of Lebanon, the war has led to the creation of armed militias. The continuance of this situation means domination by illegal weapons."

There are no accurate figures for the number of war casualties. But an estimated 150,000 people are believed to have been killed and another 1 million, one-quarter of the pre-war population, displaced.

The Lebanese pound, the most solid currency in the region before the war, has collapsed. Before the war the exchange rate was 3.5 pounds to the dollar. When the currency market closed Monday, the rate was 623 to the dollar.

he added.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has consistently opposed any U.N. peace-keeping forces or other observers in the occupied Arab territories.

"I don't think we need U.N. observers. We have a long experience in our country with U.N. observers and they have nothing to do with peace. They will bring only tensions," Shamir said in an interview with ABC Television Sunday.

FLO leader Yasser Arafat urged at a Security Council meeting in Geneva over the weekend that U.N. observers be deployed in the occupied Arab territories.

"We are running out of patience," he told reporters Saturday, referring to the casualty toll in the 29-month Palestinian uprising.

Since the uprising began in December 1987, more than 700 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians.

Meanwhile, the head of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees has denied Israeli allegations that his staff exceed their mandate by monitoring and obstructing army action in the occupied territories.

"In an emergency, there is a potential for collision between those who are there to assist people and those who are there to bash the people because of the implementation of law and order," said Giorgio Giacomelli, commissioner general of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency

for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

But he denied Israeli claims that UNRWA staff were acting as unofficial observers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, shielding Palestinian protesters from the army.

Israel has rejected all proposals to deploy U.N. observers in the territories or allow a U.N. fact-finding team to visit the areas in the wake of high casualties last week.

Giacomelli arrived Monday for a 48-hour visit to show support for UNRWA staff after a week in which Israeli troops and settlers killed 21 Palestinians and wounded more than 900, mostly in the Gaza Strip.

He expressed deep concern at the enormous casualties in protests that followed the mass murder of seven Arab workers by an apparently crazed Israeli gunman on May 20.

Giacomelli met the senior Israeli policymaker for the occupied Arab territories, Shmuel Goren, and said afterwards they had differed on the role of U.N. staff in the occupation zone.

"We had to agree that we disagree," he told Reuters in an interview.

The U.N. agency, which provides health care, education and welfare services to nearly 800,000 Palestinian refugees in the occupied territories, is regarded by Israeli defence officials as being too close to the PLO.

## Israel rejects U.N. envoy dealing with security in occupied lands

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel is leaving open the possibility it would allow a U.N. delegation to visit Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories, but only one dealing with issues such as health and education and not with security.

Foreign Ministry officials pointed out to reporters Monday that Israel had in the past accepted personal envoys of the U.N. secretary-general.

"If there will be a request for a secretary-general envoy who will not deal with security, then it will be judged on its merits," said one official. "We are not saying yes, not saying no."

The statement came after the United States blocked a move by the U.N. Security Council to send a team of observers to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but then backed a U.N. investigation on behalf of the secretary-general.

Calls for U.N. observers to safeguard the Palestinians follow a massacre of seven Arab labourers by an Israeli gunman and an ensuing wave of rioting in which 16 Palestinians have been killed by soldiers or civilians.

A Foreign Ministry official, briefing reporters on condition of anonymity, said an envoy from the secretary-general would have to deal with issues such as health, environmental affairs and education.

"If the envoy would like to discuss police in the (occupied) territories, then no thank you," he added.

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## Ethiopia claims victory against rebels

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — The government has claimed a victory over Tigrean rebels in fighting last week for control of a strategic mountain pass in central Ethiopia.

Newspapers in Addis Ababa said Tuesday that government troops killed 1,450 rebels of the Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) around Debre Lebanos, 80 kilometres north of the capital.

"A large number of terrorist bandits was captured and sizeable

caches of heavy and light arms and equipment seized," the newspapers said.

The reports did not specify when the fighting took place but sources said the battle was Friday and Saturday. The fighting was in the same area where the Tigreans said they "annihilated" two government battalions earlier last week.

On Friday, the rebels said in a radio broadcast they had killed 1,400 troops of the 102nd Air-

borne Division, wounded 900, and captured 2,012 Tuesday at Lemi, 110 kilometres north of Addis Ababa.

Neither the government nor the rebel claims could be independently verified.

Debre Lebanos lies on a pass through a mountain range and controls the main road from Addis Ababa northwest to Gogjam, the nation's main agricultural region.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

### 'Half of Israeli youth want Arabs expelled'

TEL AVIV (R) — Half of Israel's teenagers want Palestinians expelled from the occupied West Bank and more than half believe Israeli Arabs should have fewer rights than Jews, according to an opinion poll published Tuesday. The poll, conducted by the Dahaf Institute, also showed that 45 per cent of the teenagers said it was acceptable to suspend political parties under an authoritarian government, at least until Israel overcame its economic and social problems. "The findings of the poll will reinforce the fears of those who are worried about the future of democracy in Israel," wrote a correspondent for the mass-circulation Yedioth Ahronoth daily which published the poll. Of 465 teenagers between the ages of 15 and 18, 51 per cent said they favoured "transfer," a euphemism for the expulsion of Arabs which is used by the far-right Moledet (homeland) party. The margin of error in the poll was four to five per cent. The survey showed 55 per cent of the respondents felt it was justified for Israel's 650,000-strong Arab minority to receive fewer rights than Jews.

### Commando killed in South Lebanon

SIDON (AP) — A hardline Palestinian guerrilla group said Tuesday one of its fighters was killed in a clash with Israeli-backed militiamen in South Lebanon. The Palestine Liberation Front, in a short communique released in this southern port city, said a second fighter was missing after the Monday clash with militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA). The communique said the guerrilla band clashed with the SLA near the southern town of Bint Jbeil, in the western sector of Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone." It did not disclose further details. Four guerrillas of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine were killed in a clash with the SLA in the security zone Saturday. Israel has maintained the 10-to-16 kilometre deep strip since it withdrew the bulk of its invading army from South Lebanon in June 1985.

### Briton held for robbery in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Police said Tuesday they have arrested a Briton in civil war-torn Lebanon on charges of robbing a money

exchange shop. Maj. Sami Daher identified the suspect as Allister Johnson, 20. Daher, talking to the Associated Press at the Hobeish police station off Hamra commercial thoroughfare in mainly Muslim west Beirut, said Johnson was arrested by a police patrol Saturday after robbing Lebanese money exchanger Ahmad Murtada. "He approached Murtada's money exchanger booth in Hamra and told him he wanted to change Lebanese pounds to dollars," Daher said. "After Murtada counted the banknotes, Johnson grabbed all the money and ran away," Daher said. He said Johnson made off with the equivalent of \$1,000. A police patrol in Hamra, chased the suspect and arrested him. He was armed with a pistol. But no weapons were fired, Daher said. He said the Briton, whose hometown was not available, was an "illegal resident of Lebanon." "He arrived in Lebanon six months ago, through Jounieh Port," Daher explained.

### European ministers to meet in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — European ministers of justice will hold their annual convention in Istanbul on June 3-7 to discuss "democracy founded on law." Turkish officials said Tuesday. Ministers from 23 Council of Europe member countries and Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia and Canada will attend as well as a representative of the Holy See. The convention will also debate the role of the European Council in reinforcing links with East European countries and the protection of the environment through criminal law.

### Tunisian Islamic activist jailed

TUNIS (R) — Professor Moncef Ben Salem, an Islamic fundamentalist, has been jailed for three years for criticising the Tunisian government, his lawyers said Tuesday. A Tunis court convicted him on Monday of libelling the government and issuing false reports liable to disturb the peace in an article published by the Algerian fundamentalist newspaper Al Moudjahid. In an article critical of Tunisian President Zine Abidine Ben Ali he was reported as saying people in Tunisia were tortured to death. In court he did not deny the report which he said was an account of a private conversation he had during a visit to Algeria.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77311-19

### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran  
15:40 Programme review  
15:45 Children's programme  
17:30 Educational programme  
18:00 News summary in Arabic  
18:05 Cairo news message  
18:30 Local programme  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Arabic programme  
21:30 News in Arabic  
23:00 News in Arabic  
23:40 Play

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Panique aux carabes  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Documentary  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Golden girls  
21:10 The Nuclear Age  
22:00 News in English



## Regent warns of dangers posed by Israeli policy

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday warned of the dangers posed by the Israeli policy of expansionist policies, and the Soviet Jewish immigration.

Prince Hassan said that such immigration poses a genuine danger to the human rights of the Palestinian citizens and called on the international community and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to find a just and comprehensive solution to the region's issues, in light of the continuing Israeli threats to the peace and Arab security.

The American delegation is headed by former U.S. senator Charles Percy, who served as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The American delegation is on

a "mission for a just solution in the Middle East." The 50-member delegation has already visited Syria and Egypt and will travel to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip Thursday (See story on page 5).

Also Tuesday Prince Hassan received Deputy Chief of Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces General Klimov, who is currently on a visit to Jordan and reviewed with him the latest developments on the Arab and international arenas, as well as bilateral relations.

The audience was attended by the Soviet ambassador to Jordan and the Soviet military attaché in Amman.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is expected to resume importing Lebanese agricultural products following a three-year break due to "technical reasons," according to the Chairman of the Lebanese Farmers Association Yousef Muhieddin.

He told a press conference here, following talks with Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat, that the minister has now given instructions to the concerned authorities to conduct a full study on Jordanian markets' needs of Lebanese agricultural products prior to resuming their



REGENT MEETS CANADIAN TEAM: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday received a visiting delegation representing the Canadian Defence College. He briefed the team on

the situations in the region in general and the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories in particular.

## Agriculture trade planned with Lebanon

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is expected to resume importing Lebanese agricultural products following a three-year break due to "technical reasons," according to the Chairman of the Lebanese Farmers Association Yousef Muhieddin.

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imports.

Muhieddin and his delegation discussed with Arabiyat and other officials at the Ministry of Agriculture ways of increasing the volume of products exchanged between Jordan and Lebanon.

"Discussion covered the prospect of conducting barter trade with Lebanon, supplying Jordan with apples and potatoes among other products in demand by the Jordanian markets and importing certain Jordanian vegetables and chemical fertilisers in return," Muhieddin said.

Earlier the minister had said that Jordan was expected to purchase a large part of Lebanon's current year's harvest of apricots which are expected to total 25,000 tonnes.

Muhieddin reviewed the difficulties and hardships encountered by the Lebanese farmers in obtaining loans, guidance, extension services and fertilisers largely due to the prevailing situation in Lebanon which has been plagued by civil strife since 1974.

Referring to the association in Lebanon, he said that it was successful in eliminating the

growing of hashish and other crops used in the narcotics trade and helped farmers to plant apricots and wheat instead.

"Farmers who used to grow hashish were compensated when their crops were destroyed, a process which led to reducing the total area of land planted with hashish by 93 per cent," Muhieddin said.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture here, Jordan exported 50,000 tonnes of agricultural products to Lebanon in the past nine months.

## WHO honours Malhas

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Health Minister Zubair Malhas was Tuesday honoured by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for his distinguished role in leading a nationwide campaign against smoking over the past two years.

WHO regional representative Dr. Hussein Al Jaziri presented a medal to Dr. Malhas at a ceremony held here in the presence of Health Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben.

In a brief speech on the occasion Jaziri reviewed WHO's campaigns against smoking worldwide and paid tribute to the efforts of the Jordanian Health Ministry which helped carry out this campaign in the Kingdom.

"Malhas is one of the prominent personalities who played a major role in the campaigns to spread awareness among members of the public against the habit of smoking," said Jaziri.

Malhas thanked WHO for this honour and in turn presented the medal to the health minister who voiced Jordan's appreciation to



Zubair Malhas

WHO for combating smoking and helping to ensure better health for citizens everywhere.

While serving in his post as health minister, Malhas enforced a 1976 law on banning smoking at all cinemas, theatres, public libraries, public transport vehicles and other places considered public by the ministry.

A fine of JD 10 to JD 200 is imposed on the violators of the law.

Jordan also observes an annual non-smoking day on April 7 in implementation of WHO's call and in a bid to eliminate the habit of smoking by the Jordanian public.

## JEPSCO to retain subscriber deposits

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deposits paid in advance by subscribers to the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPSCO) will not be returned to the subscribers because these funds are kept by the company as a guarantee for payment, according to Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taber.

"Only when subscribers wish to leave the house supplied by electric power can they get a refund," said the minister in a written reply to a question by subscribers upon requesting to be supplied with electric power.

"This practice followed by various countries is the world's best ensure coverage of at least one month's power consumption by subscribers, many of whom often fail to settle their dues for more than two months," the minister said in his reply to a question fielded by Lower House of Parliament member Fakhr Kassar.

## Arab hospitals urged to be cautious on drugs

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan took part in an international seminar on drugs and addiction which ended in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, recently. Arab Psychiatrists Federation Executive Committee member Dr. Adnan Al Takriti said that the seminar recommended that June 23 of every year be declared international day for combating drugs.

Takriti said that participants in the seminar approved the enacted laws concerning prescribing and importing medicines and stressed the need for all public and private hospitals to abide by these decisions. They stressed the importance of security departments in following up the implementation of these decisions through carrying out strict censorship on private hospitals and drugstores.

Participants in the seminar, Takriti said, asked doctors in general and psychiatrists in particular to be careful when prescribing drugs and medicines that might lead to addiction.

According to Takriti they also recommended enhancing cooperation between Arab states and increasing the exchange of expertise and information in the field of drug addiction.

The two-day seminar discussed 32 working papers presented by specialists from the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and several Arab states. These papers dealt with the cultural and social aspects of drugs and the primary and secondary psychological health care in terms of protection and cure from addiction.

## Foreigners to get 5-year permits for residence

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign women married to Jordanians and foreigners living in the Kingdom for at least 10 years could be issued five-year residence permits instead of permits for one year, if a new amendment to the residence and aliens law is endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The report said that the government, which passed the amendment to Parliament for approval, said that when the law has been passed, the minister of interior will be empowered to issue five-year residence permits

to the foreign wives married to Jordanians and to foreigners who had been living here for 10 years.

Foreign women married to Jordanians can, however, obtain Jordanian nationality provided they live five years here in accordance with the present law.

In justifying the move, the government said that obtaining residence permits on an annual basis has proved to be a heavy burden for wives of Jordanian citizens. The residence permits issued to women married to Jordanian citizens, it said, in most cases precede obtaining of Jordanian nationality.

## Housing Corporation accepts applications

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing Corporation Tuesday announced that it would be receiving applications from citizens wishing to benefit from Salt new housing project, the corporation's Director-General Yousef Hiyasat said.

He added that the corporation started work on the new project as of the beginning of May. The project, which will be constructed on 75 dunams, includes a commercial market, a nursery, a school, gardens as well as other essential public utilities.

Hiyasat pointed out that candidates would be drawn from participants in a special programme called "saving for housing," who

hope to benefit from such a project.

The programme gives priority to Jordanian youths, who completed 21 years of age.

The programme stipulated that neither the applicant nor his spouse should be in possession of an apartment or house nor should they have earlier benefitted from a housing project. It also said that the beneficiary should be the breadwinner of a family with limited income.

However government employees will have priority over other citizens in benefiting from this project, according to the programme.

## Seminar reviews drug industry

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's pharmaceutical industries are important factors in ensuring medicine security for Jordan despite their recent establishment in the Kingdom, Health Minister Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben said Tuesday.

"What is required from the national pharmaceutical industries now, is to interact with the new scientific developments and to cope with the modern technology to meet the growing demand of medicine in Jordan and the Arab World," the minister said in an address delivered at the opening ceremony of a seminar to discuss development in the pharmaceutical industries in Jordan.

Scientists and pharmacists from Jordan and the United States are taking part in the three-day meetings which will review 11 working papers.

"The pharmaceutical industry is among the industries of the world that are highly affected by

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cabinet approves Italian loan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has approved the loan agreement concluded with the Italian government, whereby it will provide the Jordanian government with \$1.6 million to finance shipments of Italian rice imported by Jordan.

### Cabinet forms delegation to meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to the Egyptian-Jordanian meetings to discuss transport cooperation between the two countries. The two-day meeting which is due to start in Alexandria Wednesday is to be attended by the secretary-general of the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication who will be accompanied by two ministry officials.

### JPA wants to convene session

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the Jordan Press Association (JPA) Tuesday requested the association's council to convene an extraordinary session to discuss amendments to the JPA publications law and related regulations. In its request the general assembly called for the formation of a preparatory committee, grouping a number of general assembly members, several legal experts and information professionals to draw up a working paper on the proposed amendments.

### Commerce chambers to help farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The executive council of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce held a meeting in Amman Tuesday to review ways of helping farmers in the occupied Arab territories to market their agricultural products in Jordan and abroad. The council also decided to send teams to several Arab states to encourage trade with Jordan and to discuss economic meetings and conferences.

### Maritime companies meeting ends

AMMAN (Petra) — National maritime companies from Jordan, Egypt and Iraq concluded a meeting in Amman Tuesday with recommendations for the establishment of a maritime transport coordination office to provide expertise and information related to maritime transport, renting and promotion of cooperation among national fleets. The three-day meeting also reviewed earlier agreements on maritime transport among the four-member countries of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) which also includes Yemen in addition to the three countries.

### U of J architecture exhibit opens

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Mahmoud Al Samra opened Tuesday at the University's faculty of engineering and technology the annual exhibition for students of the architecture department. The opening ceremony of the three-day exhibition was attended by several of the university's deans and members of the teaching staff.

### Kuwait officials visit survey department

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the finance ministry in Kuwait Tuesday visited the Lands and Survey Department in Amman and studied its operations. The delegation members who had been touring a member of areas are trying to benefit from Jordan's experience in land survey.

### Beekeepers day marked

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Beekeepers Association in cooperation with the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture and the Ministry of Agriculture holds the second practical beekeeping day Thursday, 31 May at Irbid Professional Association Complex.

## Voluntary societies to hold charity bazaar

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday will open a charitable bazaar by the Union of Voluntary Societies (UVS) in Amman.

Twenty-eight charitable societies will be participating in the bazaar, exhibiting various handicrafts, embroideries, ceramics, plants and home-made cakes.

The Union of Voluntary Societies was founded in Amman in 1958 and comprises all the charitable societies in the capital, a total of 168.

Among these societies are those specialised in the areas of the handicapped, education, professional training, health care and information services.

UVS supervise the interests of the societies affiliated to it, coordinates their efforts and upgrades the standard of their services.

It also acts as a liaison between

the societies and the government, particularly the Ministry of Social Development.

With the aim of fostering children's hobbies, UVS opened a Child's Culture Home in Marka, which offers its services for 150-170 children each day.

In 1989, Her Majesty Queen Noor inaugurated the new building of UVS, which serves as a headquarters and a location of the Union's activities.

UVS is funded through subscriptions of member societies, proceeds from activities and assistance from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

The Queen's patronage of such an event comes in line with Her Majesty's policy of encouraging charitable work in Jordan as well as local production and income generating projects.

## Minister urges attention on industries involving disabled

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Al Shreideh Tuesday called for planning for the future of industries involving the hearing impaired in order to start distributing and marketing their products in tourist centres and to be displayed in the national market for traditional industries which will be opened in Amman.

of the rehabilitation centre for youth in Zarqa to prepare a comprehensive study to pave the way for setting up projects that can benefit the Jordanian society.

The minister also opened an art exhibition at Queen Alia Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Hearing Impaired. The minister was briefed on the centre's activities and progress by its director.

**Jordan Times**  
Tel: 667171-6

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Exhibition of paintings by Randa Berouti at Goethe Institute.
- Exhibition displaying traditional Syrian handicraft by Syrian women, and hand-printed textile by Mustafa Fathi at the French Cultural Centre.

### FILM

- British film on art at AEs Art Gallery — 6:30 p.m.

### DIALOGUE

- Open dialogue on "Hearing Disorders in Jordan" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

### LECTURE

- Lecture, in French, on "Charles Nodier" by Noel Favreliere at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

### GAMES NIGHT

- Open evening which includes games such as pictionary, monopoly, chess, scrabble and the Arabic version of Trivial Pursuit at the British Council (6-9 p.m.).

## Arabs stress Israeli nuclear threat at Bonn conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament member Husni Ayesh returned home Tuesday after representing Jordan at an Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference held in Bonn, West Germany, on May 20. In an arrival statement Ayesh said that the meeting, which was dedicated for disarmament issues, was convened in implementation of a resolution adopted by the IPU council during its meeting in Sofia in 1988 and aimed at enabling parliamentarians to discuss and exchange information on international situations and future prospects as far as disarmament is concerned.

and said that Israel was the only state in this region which possesses nuclear bombs as well as the other chemical and biological arms. "Yet it has not acceded to the international treaty on the limitation of nuclear arms and refused to have its arm caches subject to inspection and supervision," Ayesh said.

Ayesh added that the Arab delegations called for making the Middle East free from destructive arms and stressed the need for settling regional issues, particularly in the Middle East, in accordance with United Nations resolutions as a prerequisite for disarmament.

Ayesh said Arab delegations taking part in the conference were keen on coordinating their stands and discussions. The Arab delegations stressed the need for linking chemical weapons with nuclear arms.

Ayesh also said that the Arab delegations explained to the meeting Israeli practices against the Palestinian people and warned of their complications and dimensions.



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## Talking is something; doing is something else

ARGUMENTS and differences apart, what counts most is what is the practical outcome of the emergency Arab summit which concludes today in Baghdad. It is not enough that the Arab leaders gathered in the Iraqi capital come out with statements strongly supporting Iraq against the Western campaign, calling for increased backing for the intifada and the Palestinian people, pledging political, military and financial support for Jordan, urging the superpowers to help stop Israel's settlement policies, and reaffirming calls for Arab solidarity and unity against adversaries and common challenges. They should also work out a framework of action to translate into deeds whatever is agreed upon in Baghdad, whether in the context of the intifada or of solidarity and unity. We have seen enough and more of Arab resolutions coming out of the 1964 summit held in Cairo followed by another 17 gatherings of Arab heads of state in various other Arab capitals and cities but very little of them implemented in their full sense and spirit. In fact, the feeling of the common Arab identity and the sense of sharing a common destiny appeared to have dissipated into thin air as soon as the resolutions were read out and the hosts announced the summit adjourned.

But if that is the fate that awaits the decisions already adopted and expected to be endorsed in Baghdad, then one word of caution to the Arab leaders is in order: Things have gone too far this time around not to take the situation in the Middle East and the developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict seriously. Words in Baghdad in a show of Arab unity can pull very little water if not accompanied by concrete action to reaffirm the international community that this time the Arabs have really woken up to the game and are indeed realistically prepared to fight off all challenges. Little time and energy should be wasted in diplomatic finesse and considerations of sensitivities of people who have very little regard for Arab sensitivities. Such a message can only come through a practical plan of action designed to support the Palestinian intifada to the hilt, reinforce and maintain Jordan's position as an strong defensive wall against Zionist onslaughts, pressure the superpowers into ensuring that Israel does not settle any more of the occupied territories and does not undertake actions aimed at destabilising the Arab states and, last but not the least, inform the world that the Arabs do not need any international policeman to protect their oil resources; they can take care of it themselves if only the world powers leave them alone. Instead of encouraging Israel's military adventures with almost total immunity, the world powers should understand the genuine security fears of the Arabs and realise that the Jewish state can no longer hope to hit out anyone anytime without expecting the same treatment in return. A seemingly Herculean task; but very simple if the leaders meeting in Baghdad are justified in laying claim to a common Arab identity, the core of which is at stake.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian daily newspapers Tuesday discussed speeches delivered at the extraordinary summit in Baghdad by His Majesty King Hussein and other Arab leaders, underlining the immense burden the Arabs are now shouldering in confronting their common enemy. Al Ra'i daily said that the King's address contained warnings to the Arab World that Israel's ambitions are designed not only for Palestine but also for Jordan and the rest of the Arab World. Jordan forms the wall fencing off Israel's acts of aggression from reaching the Arab states, but the Kingdom is now shouldering a far heavier burden than it can ever bear, and is in a position prone to Israel's aggression, which is faced with the Israeli enemy and the Israeli arsenal, is struggling to free itself from the economic burdens and is in a weak position vis-a-vis Israel's formidable force, unless it is supported by the other Arab countries. Not only did the King present the facts to the Arab heads of state, but he also called for a strong, united Arab response to Israel's challenge and arrogance, said the paper. By supporting and assisting Jordan, the paper added, the Arabs are defending themselves from future aggression. Israel's ambitious designs, it stressed, can only be thwarted by unity and solidarity among the Arab states.

A columnist in Al Ra'i newspaper on Tuesday discussed Jordan's need of qualified nurses, turned out from nursing schools in the country to replace those imported from foreign nations. Salah Abdul Samad says that in the light of the shortages in the number of nurses, Jordan had resorted to importing nurses from the Philippines and China in the past; but the nursing schools in the country, are now graduating good numbers of qualified men and women to take over services at clinics and hospitals in the Kingdom. The writer notes that the Ministry of Health and the National Medical Institution have both endorsed plans to second Jordanian nurses to Arab states, and to allow others to seek employment abroad with the hope of improving their income and earning the country hard currency. But, he says, that the country still has foreign nurses who continue to transfer their earnings in hard currency to their home countries, a situation which is doing harm to the national economy. Should the health authorities in Jordan allow Jordanians to work abroad, the writer notes, they ought first to ensure that the country has sufficient number of nurses to replace them, rather than allow foreign nurses the chance to stay indefinitely in Jordan.

In his address to the summit Monday, King Hussein outlined a number of facts about the Arab situation and the dangers facing Jordan, said Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily Tuesday. After pointing out Jordan's endeavours over the past four decades to defend Arab soil and to serve as a strong fortress in the face of Israel's ambitious designs, the King warned of an imminent Israeli aggression on the Kingdom, and asked that the country be backed by its sister states and that the uprising in the Israeli-held Arab territories be supported, because such backing and such support are in reality an exercise of defence of the whole Arab World, said the paper. The paper said that the King's address should serve as a working paper for the Arab summit, lighting the way for the Arab heads of state for collective action.

## Economic Forum

# Wrong readings on Jordan inflation scale

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

INFLATION is commonly measured by the consumer price index (CPI) as in the United States, or by the producer price index (PPI) such as in Britain. In certain cases, the so-called gross national product deflator is used for this purpose. Roughly speaking, the index itself, say 160 points at the end of any given year, represents the cost of living, i.e. the accumulated price increases, while the change in that index resembles the rate of inflation. If the index moves to 180 points in the following year, the rate of inflation will be 12.5 per cent. Where this rate of change is less than 5 per cent, we have price stability and can hardly talk about inflation. It is only when prices rise at more than 5 per cent per annum and do that over a number of years that we can

justifiably talk about inflation. This is why inflation is defined in textbooks as the "persistent" or "continuous" increase in prices. In practical life this sophisticated differentiation is rarely observed and the rate of inflation refers not only to any increases in prices but also to a drop in them.

In Jordan, we use the cost of living index to measure inflation. To my mind, there is only a very slight difference between this index and CPI, in the sense that the basket of the former is a part of the much larger basket of the latter. This difference is not insignificant but it does not distort the analyses of price variations based on the cost of living index because we can consider its basket as fairly and reasonably representative of that of CPI. The base year for our cost of

living index is 1986, meaning that the price level in 1986 was 100 points. According to this index, prices rose by 74 per cent in the period 1980-1989, that is at an average annual rate of 7.4 per cent in that decade. The index rose from 76.9 points in 1980 to 106.4 points in 1988 (devaluation year) and stood at 133.8 points at the end of 1989, that is one year after devaluation. These figures mean that the inflation generated in a single year, 1989, mainly due to devaluation, was as much as the inflation generated throughout the previous nine years of the eighties. This gives a very fair account of the havoc devaluation played with the socio-economic life of Jordanians. We firmly believe that the present cost of living index understates inflation in Jordan.

Of course a price index such as our cost of living index is constructed from the prices of a basket of goods and services grouped under main headings which are accorded various weights in the light of their relative shares of aggregate consumption expenditures. In the case of Jordan, there are five headings, or groups, broken down into seventeen sub-groups.

Now I simply believe that the present composition of our cost of living index has become outdated and that it started to give wrong readings. It is not only that our index suffers, as any other price indexes, from revising its representative basket of goods and services only intermittently over years, but there is also more to that. We are referring specifically to the

effects of the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar (JD).

A Jordanian household that used to spend 50 per cent of its income on imported goods and services prior to the devaluation of 1988 would need more than 50 per cent of that income to buy the same amount of imported goods and services after the devaluation. Therefore, the weight of the imported items in the basket of the cost of living index must have been revised upwards after the devaluation in order to reflect the new facts and to thereby maintain the "accuracy" of the index. This has not been done and therefore the readings are not correct, or are more incorrect. The 1989 inflation rate of 25.8 per cent suggested by the cost of living index is certainly

underestimated to the tune of anything between 10 to 15 per cent in our judgment.

Of course, devaluation and the consequential rise in the prices of imports could have very well lowered the spending of the Jordanian household on imports of goods and services. However, this does not affect the essence of the above analysis because this analysis was addressed to the relative, not absolute, shares of the components of household spending. However, it is quite possible that devaluation and the subsequent jump in the inflation rate have affected spending patterns. This means that there is now a need for an abrupt revision of the basket of our cost of living index not only in terms of weights but also in terms of contents.

## A superpower summit of lowered expectations

By Terence Hunt  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — George Bush's second get-together with Mikhail S. Gorbachev shapes up as a summit of lowered expectations.

There will be no treaty signed to limit long-range nuclear missiles, no announcement of a dramatic increase in trade between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Other differences also will be felt: Moscow's resistance to German unity, its pressure on rebellious Lithuania to rejoin the Soviet fold, and the slow pace of talks to call home hundreds of thousands of troops and tanks from Europe.

An agreement will be signed to destroy chemical weapons and a statement will be issued announcing limits on cruise missiles, an important step towards a broader treaty cutting the deadliest weapons in the superpowers' arsenals.

But much of the three days of talks from May 31 to June 2 will be given over to discussing issues on which the superpowers are at loggerheads.

"We've got a lot of things to discuss that might not result in a signed agreement," Bush said last week, adding, "there's enormous problems that just need to be talked about."

Recognising the two leaders' fondness for surprises, many experts believe that something unexpected will emerge from the summit — but probably nothing earthshaking.

"They are almost compelled to pull one or two rabbits out of the hat but they're going to be fairly small rabbits," predicted Robert W. Tucker, a Soviet specialist at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Possible steps towards progress include further compromises for a pact covering long-range nuclear missiles, where a differences already have been narrowed significantly, or pledges to revive slowly moving negotiations on a treaty to slash the superpowers' European armies and stores of conventional arms.

Tucker said the real importance of the summit is that it continues the string of superpower meetings.

"It's part of the long and complicated and arduous process of

winding down the cold war and the differences that remain between us," Tucker said.

Aside from striving for progress in arms talks, Bush will press Gorbachev to allow a united Germany to be a part of the U.S.-led NATO alliance.

The Bush administration feels Moscow has slowed the pace of the discussions on a conventional forces in Europe treaty, in part, because it wants the large West German army scaled back.

On this issue, there may be signs of movement.

Last week, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze said Moscow "advocates an acceleration in the Vienna negotiations."

He rejected the notion that Moscow's concerns over the West German army have made his government hesitant to sign a CFE agreement.

Lithuania also promises, in Bush's words, to put "some tension on the summit."

Secretary of State James Baker said recently that "a good bit" of the president's time will be spent discussing the moves by Baltic states to become independent and Gorbachev's pressure to keep them in the fold.

Gorbachev, facing tests of his power at an important Communist Party congress in July, likely will be unwilling to give up too much to Bush, experts say.

"Gorbachev's playing a very weak hand but he's playing it as well he's made himself look like an equal," said Robert Hunter, a Soviet expert at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

"His objective is not to humiliate the president but to be seen as a member of 'the club.' It's Bush's interest to be as forthcoming with Gorbachev as he can, while Gorbachev is doing what we want him to do," Hunter said.

"They have a mutual interest in success at this summit."

Gorbachev is interested in any help Bush can offer for the battered Soviet economy. But that help, at least for now, won't include the trade concessions that once had been expected from the Bush administration.

The United States will not grant the Soviet Union preferential, most-favoured-nation status because the Soviet legislature has not passed legislation guaranteeing the right of emigration.

## U.S.-Israelities soured?

By Alan Elsner

Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S.-Israeli relations have slid into a period of bitterness fuelled by strong personal dislike between the leaders of the two countries.

Officials and analysts said sourness between the Jewish state and its major ally was likely to persist and even worsen until Israel produced a government willing to commit itself to a peace dialogue with Palestinians.

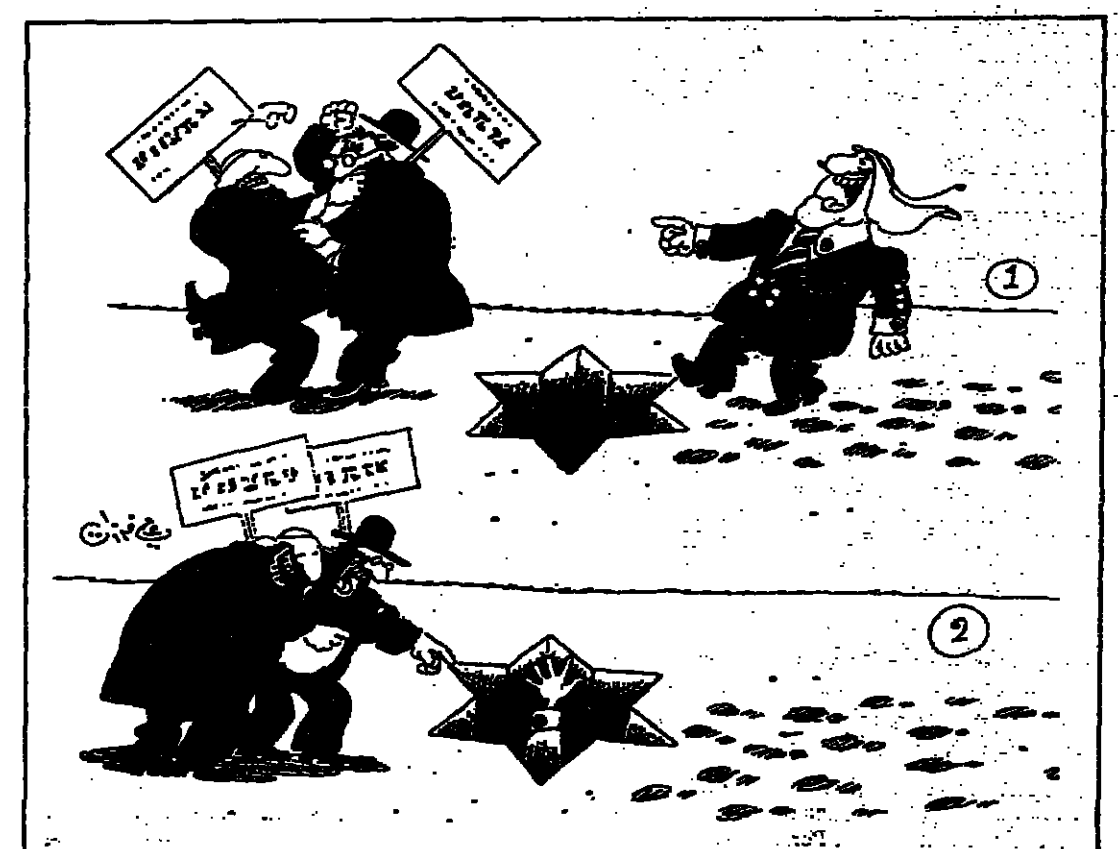
"There is no doubt we are in a phase of tension and stumbling where there is irritation on both sides and each jumps on almost every statement the other makes," said one Israeli source who declined to be named.

At the heart of the relationship is the strong antipathy between Israel's hard-line Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and President George Bush and his secretary of state, James Baker.

"Bush and Baker are genuinely angry at Shamir and make little effort to disguise it," said William Quandt, a Middle East analyst with the Brookings Institution, a liberal Washington think tank.

"They think they went to considerable lengths to accommodate Shamir's approach to peacemaking and invested time and effort in it and at the last moment Shamir brushed them off. These are men who don't like to fail," he said.

Israeli-U.S. relations have been through rocky times before. Their lowest point was probably in 1956 and 1957 when President Dwight D.



Eisenhower forced Israel to retreat from the Sinai peninsula after its troops occupied the desert territory.

U.S. opinion was outraged in 1982 by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and its indirect role in the massacre of Palestinians in Beirut refugee camps.

"The problem now is a long-term pessimism that is creeping into the relationship, almost entirely due to the attitude and actions of the Shamir government," said Geoffrey Kemp, an analyst with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The key event was the fall of the Israeli government in

March after Shamir failed to endorse Baker's ideas for a peace dialogue with Palestinians from the occupied territories.

Since then, everything has gone wrong in the relationship. While Israel has groped for 10 weeks to find a new government, Shamir's caretaker administration approved new settlements in the territories and secretly financed the takeover by Jewish ultra-nationalists of a Greek Orthodox hospice in the heart of the Christian quarter of occupied Jerusalem.

When Israeli troops and settlers killed 15 Palestinians

while putting down protests in the territories following May 20 murder of seven Arabs by a deranged Israeli, the administration reacted sharply.

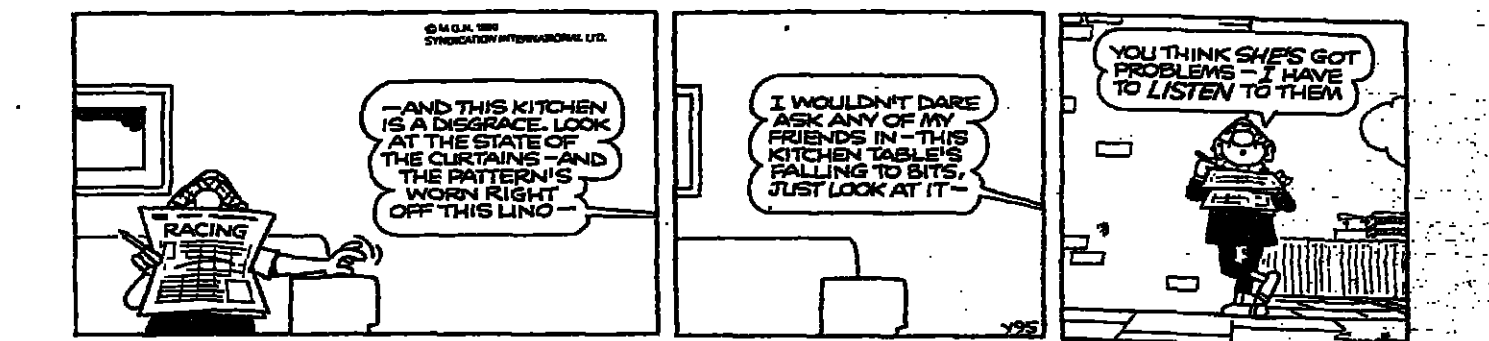
Baker said Washington was prepared to discuss a Palestine Liberation Organisation proposal to send U.N. observers to the territories — a clearly implied vote of no-confidence in Israel's handling of the protests.

High-level contacts between Israel and the United States have almost dried up since March. Baker no longer talks regularly to Israeli cabinet ministers. Bush has stopped talking to them at all.

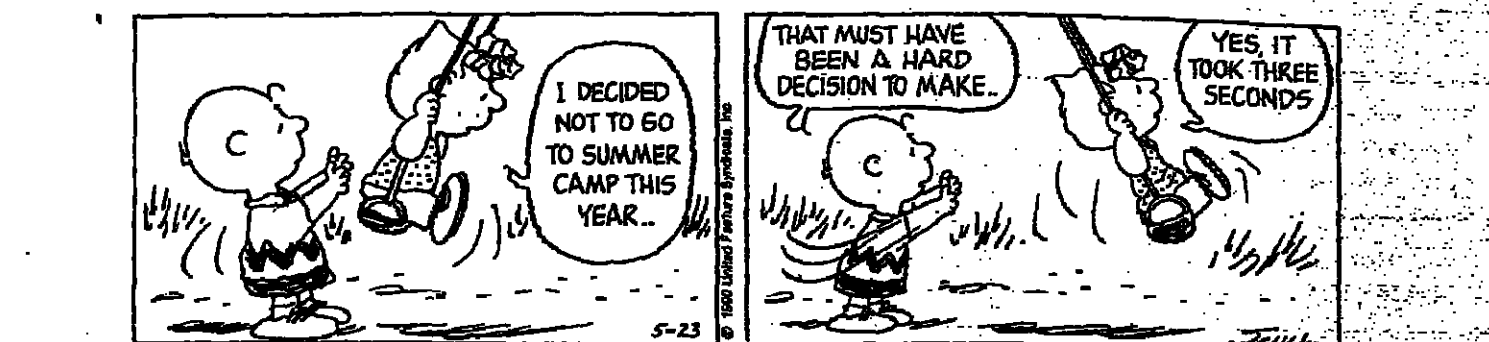
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Percy: No peace without Palestinian state, Israeli demand for veto over negotiators is unrealistic

## Israeli settlements raise fears of war, says former U.S. senator

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Settlement of Jewish immigrants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip will only perpetuate tension and push the Middle East towards another Arab-Israeli war, and it is time Israel realised this reality and accepted the concept of land in return for peace, with the Arabs, according to a veteran American politician and lawmaker.

"If there is any sincerity for peace on the part of Israel, it should immediately accept to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the representative of the Palestinian people," said Charles Percy, a former member of the U.S. Senate (Democrat - Illinois). "The Israeli demand for the right to choose the Palestinian negotiators is totally unrealistic," added Percy, who is here at the head of a delegation of 50 Americans on a mission for a just solution in the Middle East.

Drawing an analogy for the Israeli stand that the Jewish state should have a veto over any member of a Palestinian delegation for peace talks, Percy asked: "Since when does a businessman have the luxury of enjoying the right to name the union delegates for negotiations to settle a dispute?"

"There is no chance for peace in the Middle East without the creation of an independent Palestinian state, and the involvement of a moderate government such as Jordan in a confederal arrangement after the state is created should be a factor which encourages Israel to pursue peace talks," he said.

"Israel must begin the process of negotiations with the Palestinians, and the internationally-recognised representative of the Palestinian people is the PLO," said Percy, who lost his bid for re-election in the Senate in the last elections after what was widely seen as a concerted campaign against him mounted by the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the pro-Israel lobby in the U.S.

Percy, who at one time was labelled "number one enemy of Israel" by the Jewish lobby for his firm positions in support of American interests (which, according to many U.S. experts, "happen to coincide with Arab interests"), said he found a strong desire for peace among the people of the Middle East, but blamed Israeli intransigence for the stagnation in the peace process.

"Even the people of Israel want peace," he said. "That is why it is today so difficult for their leaders to form a government," he added, referring to the ongoing efforts by the caretaker prime minister and right-wing leader, Yitzhak Shamir, to secure parliamentary majority to form a coalition cabinet.

Syria very 'desirous of peace'

The "mission for a just solution in the Middle East" includes several leading American politicians, among them former presidential candidate John Anderson, three former members of the House of Representatives, prominent Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders in the United States (including Rabbi Robert Max from Chicago), leading businessmen, academics, journalist and ex-hostage Jerry Levin, Canadian parliament member Ian Wadell, Hollywood star Mike Farrell, and experts on the Middle East.

Percy, who arrived in Amman Monday night after visits to Syria and Egypt, said he also found Syrian President Hafez Al Assad "very desirous of peace."

"We spent two hours with President Assad in Damascus," he said. "We came out with the impression that Syria is ready for peace with Israel if the Golan Heights were returned to it and mutually-agreeable security arrangements could be worked out."

"President Assad wants to do a lot of things for his country and people," Percy said. "But, the enormous military expenditure caused by the tension in the region is foiling his efforts."

During a meeting with the delegation Tuesday morning, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, underlined "a most important factor in the Middle East and elsewhere," Percy said.

The ex-senator quoted the Crown Prince as saying: "We must move from where strategy and politics matter and seem all important to where people really matter and are the most important consideration. When we do that then the relations between the haves and have-nots can be the important development."

The Crown Prince also pointed out that the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq had cost \$1 trillion which could otherwise have been spent on the welfare of the people of the region, according to Percy.

The delegation began its trip May 21, and first visited Syria and then Egypt, where they met with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali.

According to Percy, "we found that Egypt is very much in favour of the idea of a U.N. presence in the occupied territories (since) it would help greatly to diffuse the tension there."

### Five main points

The delegation has adopted five main points as its guidelines for the mission:

- The reaffirmation that United Nations Resolutions

242 and 338 must be the starting point for meaningful negotiations for an acceptable solution to both sides of the conflict.

— The resolution of the conflict, through non-violent means, must be monitored, approved, and guaranteed by the United Nations and the international community.

— An independent Palestinian state must be created along the state of Israel, with guaranteed security for both states and encouragement should be given to the exploring of confederation arrangements.

(Percy explained that "any discussion of a confederation arrangement should come only after an independent Palestinian state is created. This is a view shared by Jordan, as we understood from our meeting with the Crown Prince this morning".)

— Officials of the Israeli government and the recognised leaders of the Palestinian people should enter into direct talks without preconditions for a comprehensive and just solution. There is no viable alternative to acceptance of the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

(According to Percy, the Crown Prince explained that Jordan, which disengaged itself from the occupied West Bank in favour of the PLO in 1988, has no desire whatsoever of speaking on behalf of the Palestinian people. The Kingdom is willing, if specifically asked, to join the negotiating team. But the overall framework should be an international conference under U.N. auspices).

— The American delegation supports President George Bush's "wise and just opposition" to any new settlement in all the occupied territories as constituting disturbing barriers to Middle East peace.

Percy said it was only a coincidence that the delegation was visiting the Middle East at a time when an emergency Arab summit is held in Baghdad, Iraq, where Soviet Jewish emigration and the threats inherent in the massive influx of Soviet Jews to Israel is one of the key topics.

### 'Explosive issue'

The ex-senator described Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel as "one of the most explosive issues," and called for "an Israeli pledge monitored by observers that none of the newcomers will be settled in occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip."

Any such settlement, he said, "is like pouring gasoline into an already overheated situation" and "will push the area to the brink of war."

One of the main goals of the delegation, Percy said, is to influence the U.S. administration

to reaffirm and intensify its search for a just peace in the Middle East. He said the delegation was seen off from Washington by senior State Department officials and the administration has asked for a briefing on the mission's findings upon its conclusion.

According to Percy, the time is ripe for a concerted push in the U.S. for a strengthened quest for peace in the Middle East.

"There is a marked change even in the American Jewish community's stand towards Israel," he said. "Even the AIPAC has criticised Israel for covertly financing (a Jewish settlement in the Christian quarter of) Jerusalem."

"There is also a changing position in Congress," he added, pointing out that minority leader Robert Dole, a Republican senator, is now highly critical of Israel after being a staunch supporter of the Jewish state for decades. "Sen. Dole has even called for a five per cent cut in American aid to Israel," Percy noted.

Percy, who once headed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the Middle East and South Asia — where India and Pakistan are at loggerheads over Kashmir — were the two potential spots where nuclear weapons could be used, "drawing the United States" into the imbroglio.

"Nuclear weapons are present in both areas," he said, underlining the irony that at a time when the superpowers were moving towards reconciliation and détente there was no movement towards dialogue to settle these two regional conflicts.

The delegation has scheduled meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Shamir, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Labour leader Shimon Peres and hawkish former minister Ariel Sharon as well as a group of prominent Palestinians. "We will discuss every point of conflict," said Percy, adding that the delegation hoped to meet with His Majesty King Hussein upon its return from the occupied territories.

Percy said he was also looking forward to a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak later next month "since Egypt is a key player in the Middle East peace process."

The delegation is scheduled to be received by Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi and Lower House Speaker Suleiman Arar Wednesday before leaving for the occupied West Bank early Thursday. It will be back in Amman June 5.

The delegation's visit is organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax-World Foundation and coordinated by the local chapters of the Middle East Council of Churches based in Cyprus.

## Summit logjam remains over approach to U.S

(Continued from page 1)

who departed from a prepared text to repeatedly denounce American "imperialism" in an open expression of scorn at the American memo.

However, the Iraqi leader was seen to have projected a "well-balanced argument" that the possession and developments of weapons in the Arab World is not necessarily for aggressive purposes, but for self-defence.

President Hussein said Monday that he would use weapons of mass destruction against Israel if it deployed its nuclear arsenal against any Arab state.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told the conference Monday that Israel has 200 nuclear bombs.

At the closed-door session Tuesday, the PLO leader said Israel was conducting military exercises in the Naqurah desert in preparation for an assault on

Iraq's military installations.

In his speech Monday, Arafat urged Arab leaders to mobilise their oil wealth in support of the Palestinian uprising.

"We are duty bound to use all weapons, including sanctions — economic boycotts and political and psychological pressures — against states, establishment and companies that participate in aggression against Arab territory," Arafat said.

He denounced the U.S. Congress for describing Jerusalem as Israel's capital in recent non-binding resolutions.

"This illegitimate declaration amounts to aggression on Arab dignity," Arafat said.

He said Arab Jerusalem "is part of the Palestinian territory under Israeli occupation. It is the capital of the State of Palestine."

Arafat also accused the United States of supporting Israel's settlement of Jews in occupied Syrian and Lebanese territory, as well as in the West Bank.

The PLO wants the summit, boycotted by Syria and Lebanon, to

back the idea of sending U.N. observers or peacekeepers to the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The United States said Tuesday it hopes any joint statement emerging from meetings of the Arab League would contribute to peace in the Middle East, and it called statements

by President Hussein "outrageous," the AP reported.

"Our view of these statements remains as it was several weeks ago. They're irresponsible; they're inflammatory; they're outrageous," said State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler.

## British foreign secretary

(Continued from page 1)

On the eve of his visit to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, Hurd called for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and voiced fears that the situation in the occupied territories could deteriorate with Soviet Jewish immigration.

Addressing Arab journalists at his residence in London, Hurd said the situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was unjustifiable and unsustainable and "could be made worse" by the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

"What is required is dialogue between the Palestinians and Israel. Dialogue has produced results in

other parts of the world, and it is unacceptable for Israel to refuse to sit down," he said.

Hurd reiterated that Soviet Jewish immigrants "have no right to settle in the occupied territories and (Arab) East Jerusalem."

"This view is well known to the Israelis and to the Soviet Jews themselves, because you cannot deal with injustice against a certain group by producing injustice to another," Hurd said.

Israel expects about 150,000 Soviet Jews to arrive this year. The issue is a leading item on the agenda of the Arab summit meeting now taking place in Baghdad.

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## Scotland overcomes Malta 2-1

VALLETTA (R) — Bayern Munich striker Alan McInally scored both Scotland's goals as the World Cup finalists struggled to overcome Malta 2-1 in a friendly soccer match on Monday.

Scotland, who lost 2-1 at home to Egypt 12 days ago and had won only one of their previous seven matches, scored their winner with nine minutes remaining.

They had looked set for a huge victory in their final warm-up game before the World Cup when McInally grabbed a glorious opening goal after just five minutes with a powerful drive.

Malta, without a win in their previous 19 internationals, looked apprehensive, but when the Scots subsequently failed to make anything of their vast possession, the Maltese grew in confidence.

They equalised two minutes from half-time when Michael De Giorgio's long-range free-kick pierced the defensive wall, possibly taking a deflection past first-half keeper Andy Goran.

Four second-half substitutions brought renewed fire to Scotland's play, but it was McInally, who has now scored three goals in seven internationals, who did most to stretch the home side's defence.

Manager Andy Roxburgh's only injury worry from the game was defender Gary Gillespie, who came off just before half-time when he received a knock in a heavy tackle.

### Umbria shocks Brazil

In other games, star-studded Brazil, who will be vying for their fourth World Cup in the finals starting next month, went down to a shock 1-0 defeat in a warm-up friendly against an Umbria selection Monday.

Umbria striker Artissio was too quick for goalkeeper Taffarel, beating him to the ball to score the only goal six minutes from the start from a corner kick. It was Umbria's only corner to Brazil's 11, but the home team managed to withstand almost constant pressure with a mixture of luck and poor finishing from a Brazil attack boasting such names as Careca, Muller, Valdo, Romario and Bebeto.

## Italy plays Greece today in warm up soccer match

PERUGIA, Italy (R) — Italian manager Azeglio Vicini hopes history will repeat itself when the World Cup hosts take on Greece Wednesday in their last warm-up match before next month's finals.

In 1934, when the Italians won the World Cup on home soil, they lost friendly in the run-up was a 4-0 victory over the Greeks in Milan.

Greece also provided Vicini with his first success as Italian manager after taking over from Enzo Bearzot who led the side to triumph in the 1982 World Cup.

Vicini's debut in charge of the team was marked by a 2-0 win against the Greeks in Bologna in October 1986, with captain Giuseppe Bergomi scoring both goals.

"I'll never forget that match.

I've never even scored two goals in a match for Inter," said the Internazionale Milan defender, one of five survivors from the Bologna game. "I hope it augurs well for all Wednesday at Perugia."

Vicini said the Greek squad included seven players from the 1986 clash.

"This means we'll meet an experienced side and the match will be a good test for us," he said.

In eight previous encounters with Greece, the Italians have won five times, drawn twice and lost once.

Italy will not be at full strength as midfielder Roberto Donadoni will be the only AC Milan player in the team.

Vicini is resting the Milan players — Franco Baresi, Paolo Mal-

dini and Carlo Ancelotti — who retained the European Cup in the final against Benfica a week ago. Donadoni missed the match through suspension.

Besides Bergomi, goalkeeper Walter Zenga, Donadoni, midfielder Fernando De Napoli and star striker Gianluca Vialli played in the 1986 match against Greece.

Greek coach Antonis Georgiadis sees the match as a test for his side's preparations for the 1992 European championship.

"The Italian team is one of the favourites in the World Cup but we will try our best to show Greece can become an upcoming force in European soccer," he said.

"I hope my team will do well as we are not facing any (injury) problems."

## Beckenbauer tells West Germans to move up a gear

GELSENKIRCHEN, West Germany (R) — Coach Franz Beckenbauer, in charge of West Germany for the last time on home soil, has told his players to move their game up a gear in their final World Cup warm-up match against Denmark Wednesday.

The Germans, beaten finalists at the 1982 and 1986 World Cups, produced a cautious but confidence-building performance in their 1-0 victory over Czechoslovakia in Dusseldorf at the weekend.

Beckenbauer, so immersed in preparation that he hardly noticed the Denmark friendly was his last home game — he leaves the job after next month's finals — is keen for his first-choice

line-up to push themselves in their final dress rehearsal.

"If I hadn't been reminded (about the last match at home), I wouldn't have realised," he said. "What's more important is that everyone runs a lot harder in this match."

Beckenbauer, whose side play in group D with Yugoslavia, Colombia and the United Arab Emirates, is expected to field an almost unchanged side against the Danes, who are rebuilding with new players after failing to reach the Italian finals.

Bayern Munich goalkeeper Raimond Aumann, who is making a late bid to be number one choice after some superb club from this season, is expected to

replace Bodo Illgner.

But apart from Aumann, the West Germans are likely to start the match with the side that looked much more secure in defence against Czechoslovakia after a hesitant defensive display in a 3-3 draw with Uruguay last month.

Veteran libero Klaus Augenthaler, returning after injury, provided more security at the back against the Czechoslovaks.

With less than two weeks to go before the Germans' first match against Yugoslavia in Milan on June 10, the only question facing Beckenbauer is whether to play talented midfielder Thomas Haessler in a wide or central position.

## Puckett's homer lifts Twins to 6-4 victory over Orioles

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Kirby Puckett's second homer of the game, a three-run shot in the seventh inning, boosted the Minnesota Twins to a 6-4 victory over the Baltimore Orioles Monday for their fifth straight victory.

The Twins trailed 4-2 entering the bottom of the seventh when Junior Ortiz hit a one-out double and Dan Gladden singled him to third. After Fred Manrique

struck out, Puckett hit Joe Price's 2-2 pitch deep into the left-center seats.

Gene Larkin and Gary Gaetti also homered for the Twins, who tied a club record with their 19th victory in May. Randy Milligan hit his third homer for the Orioles.

Jose Berenguer (4-0) pitched two hitless innings for the victory. In Kansas City, Missouri, Bret Saberhagen (4-3) scattered nine hits for his third straight complete-game victory and Kevin Seitzer hit a pair of doubles, giving him five straight extra-base hits, as Kansas City equalled its longest winning streak of the season at three straight.

Seitzer doubled and scored to lead off the game. Mike MacFarlane had an RBI single in the second and MacFarlane and Terry Shumpert hit consecutive doubles in the seventh. Detroit scored in the fourth on two-out singles by

Larry Sheets, Matt Nokes and Tracy Jones and in the ninth on Nokes' third homer. Loser Brian Dubois (2-3) yielded three runs and 10 hits in six innings.

Chicago raised baseball's best home record to 16-6 by scoring the winning run on seventh-inning singles by Scott Fletcher and Robin Ventura, both of whom started the game hitting under .200. Eric King (4-0) held the Yankees to three hits in eight innings. Bobby Thigpen pitched the ninth for his 15th save.

Fletcher, who came into the game hitting .192, opened the seventh with a single off Tim Lincecum (3-5). He took second on Ozzie Guillen's sacrifice, went to third as Lance Johnson grounded out and scored when Ventura, who began the game with a .143 average, grounded a single up the middle. Fletcher also scored Chicago's first run in the fourth on a wild pitch.

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## Bulls even series with Pistons

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan scored 19 of his 42 points in the fourth quarter Monday and the Chicago Bulls, who had all but blown a 19-point lead, defeated the Detroit Pistons 108-101 to even their National Basketball Association (NBA) Eastern Conference best-of-7 playoff at two games each.

The Bulls built a 57-38 lead early in the second half before Joe Dumars took charge for the Pistons, scoring 17 of his 24 points in the third period to cut the margin to 71-68.

But Jordan, limited to only three points in the third period, scored 13 of Chicago's first 16 points in the first six minutes of the final quarter. And John Paxson, who finished with 17 points, made a 3-point basket and converted a three-point play in the closing minutes before the Bulls iced it with free throws.

The series shifts to Detroit Wednesday night, and game no. 6 will be played at Chicago Friday night. If a seventh game is needed, it will be played at Detroit next Sunday.

Isiah Thomas led Detroit with 26 points and Dennis Rodman had 20.

Except for the Detroit-dominated third period, the Bulls were in charge most of the way.

There were five ties early in the first quarter, the last at 12-12 after a basket by James Edwards. Bill Cartwright hit two straight to start a 12-1 Chicago run that included three-point plays by Scottie Pippen and Jordan.

The Bulls kept up the attack and turned it into a 16-4 run as the quarter ended with Chicago on top 28-16.

Neither team was able to score in the first 2½ minutes of the second period but Vinnie Johnson broke the spell with Detroit's first field goal in 8½ minutes. The Pistons had gone without a basket since Edwards had tied it 12-12.

The Pistons were unable to get closer than 10 points in the second quarter. The Bulls went ahead 39-24 with 5:07 left and upped it 51-33 on a Jordan drive. Rodman scored the final basket of the half and the Bulls led the court with what appeared to be a comfortable 51-35 lead.

Jordan made two free throws to open the third quarter and the Bulls upped it to 57-38 before Dumars caught fire. Dumars led an 8-2 run, and the Pistons later went on a 10-2 run to cut the lead to 64-56 with less than five minutes left in the quarter.

## Spaniard teenager breaks Edberg's French Open battle

PARIS (AP) — Top-seeded Stefan Edberg was eliminated from the French Open Tuesday, as the error-plagued Swede fell to the patience and passing shots of skinny Spanish teenager Sergi Bruguera.

Edberg, seeded No. 1 in a grand slam tournament for the first time, lost seven consecutive games, going from a 4-2 lead in the first set to a 3-0 deficit in the second. After that, Bruguera let the Swede beat himself with mistakes, posting a 6-4, 6-2, 6-1 upset on centre court.

It was the first time a top seed — men's or women's — had lost in the first round here since Manuel Santana defaulted because of an injury in 1965. The last time a men's top seed failed to make it past the first round in any grand slam tournament was 1971, when John Newcombe lost to Jan Kodes at the U.S. Open.

As the clay-court tournament began its second day, the latest teenage sensation of women's tennis made her grand slam debut.

U.S. 14-year-old Jennifer Capriati broke Sandrine Testud's service in the very first game and, watched by a crowd that included seven-time French Open champion Chris Evert, went on to a 6-1, 6-2 victory.

Last year, Capriati won the French Open juniors title. This year's she's aiming at the top group.

"I sense a difference," she said. "Last year I'd be finished with my play and I'd watch the (women's) final on TV. Now, this year, here's my chance. I could be in it."

Besides losing his shot at the French title, Edberg also will miss a chance to take over the world's top ranking from absent Ivan Lendl.

Bruguera, a 6-foot-1, 160-pound (1.85-metre, 73-kilogramme) 19-year-old from Barcelona, isn't overly strong. But he has the mind of a clay-court, waiting for openings and striking when they appear.

Edberg does better on fast courts, such as the Wimbledon grass where he was champion in 1988. He likes to attack at the net, a tactic that can be disastrous on clay.

Edberg tried to volley, especially against Bruguera's fairly weak serve. But the Spaniard usually countered with a backhand passing shot or just kept the ball in play until Edberg made a

mistake. A stretch in the second set typified the match.

Down a set and 1-0, Edberg could not hold serve. He netted an easy volley, sent his first serve near the baseline, followed with a backhand yards long and netted another volley to hand Bruguera the break and a 2-0 lead. Bruguera increased that to 3-0 on three Edberg errors and a service winner. He held serve for a 4-1 lead, using three more Edberg errors and a backhand passing shot.

In the sixth game, Edberg steadied and Bruguera looked vulnerable, with the Swede pouncing on short shots. It was a momentary glitch. Bruguera reestablished command in the seventh game and broke for the set, the last two points coming on a chipped forehand service return and a desperation lob by Edberg that went long.

From there, it was over quickly as Edberg ended it by sending a backhand wide.

"I was confident because I play better on clay than on fast surfaces," said Bruguera, an Italian Open semifinalist last year before making it to the fourth round in the 1989 French Open. "I was confident that if I could, I could win. You might have thought it would have made me nervous, but it wasn't the case at all."

Edberg was the second men's seed knocked out of the tournament on Tuesday.

Carl Uwe Steeb of West Germany, the 16th seed, defaulted because of an injury.

In another early match, women's seventh seed Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States advanced with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Kate McDonald of Australia.

On Monday's opening day, an old favorite of French tennis fans, Andre Agassi, turned from a party goer into a boorish monster.

Boos filled court 2 at the French Open Monday as Agassi crossed the line between frustration and surliness. He won, but he won ugly.

The 4-6, 7-6, 6-0, 6-1 elimination of unknown Canadian Martin Wostenholme by the No. 3 seed from Las Vegas, Nevada, was almost incidental. Featured were yelling at officials; smashing a racket in two and hitting his opponent so hard in the back with one shot that Wostenholme turned and walked toward the net

to fight.

"Sometimes when you're warming up with Agassi, you feel like a straight man in a vaudeville show," Wostenholme said. The top banana said he was just doing what came naturally.

"I was frustrated," Agassi said. "I didn't feel that good even at the end of the match... when I get mad, there's only one way, like today. Mad is as good as frustrated. I didn't have things together."

Agassi was the top men's seed in action on opening day, although he had to share centre stage with two other stars — defending men's champion Michael Chang and top-ranked woman Steffi Graf.

Chang, seeded 11th, struggled in the middle of his match but advanced with a 6-2, 7-6, 6-1 victory over Cassio Motta of Brazil.

It was only the third victory for Chang this year and his first on clay, but he said it was great to be back at the scene of his greatest triumph — becoming the youngest men's grand slam tournament winner, and the first American man to win the French Open in 34 years.

"Something about Paris just clicks with me," Chang said. "I don't know what it is — the people, the clay or the bread."

Graf, plagued in recent weeks by family problems and her first loss since the women's final here a year ago, beat Pascale Paradis of France 6-0, 6-2. Her forehead had lost none of its sting as she took just 39 minutes to complete the victory.

"You only think about (a loss) for a short time, then you know you are going to Paris, and it's a new tournament," she said. "I'm here, and I'm back."

### CORRECTION

In our ad entitled "WANTED FOR EMPLOYMENT", Monday, May 28th issue, it was erroneously mentioned under item 3 "FEMALE RECEPTIONISTS". It should read hostesses.

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♠ K Q 7 4  
♥ A K 10 9  
♦ A 3 5  
♣ 7 3

**WEST** ♠ 9 6 5 3  
♥ 7 5 2  
♦ 8 7 3  
♣ 10 6 4

**EAST** ♠ J 10 8  
♥ 8 6 3  
♦ Q 10 9 4  
♣ K J 9

**SOUTH** ♠ A 2  
♥ K 10 4  
♦ K 6 2  
♣ A Q 5 5 2

The bidding:  
South: 1NT  
West: 2♦  
North: 2♦  
East: 3NT  
Pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♣  
There's a cardinal rule of defense: "If you have a choice of cards to play to a trick, play the card you are known to hold." It reaped rich rewards on this deal.

After South's no-trump opening, North checked for a possible 4-4 major fit. When none was uncovered, North simply bid what he thought the combined assets would yield.

West led a top-of-nothing heart, taken in dummy. There were 10 fast

tricks and the obvious suit to develop for two extra tricks was clubs. So at trick two declarer led a club to the queen, which held. When South next cashed the ace of clubs, East followed with the card he was known to hold — the king. Afraid West now held two club tricks, declarer elected to abandon the suit in favor of the diamond finesse. That lost and a grateful East cashed the jack of clubs — down one.

East defended beautifully, but declarer could have handled matters better. After the queen of clubs won, South should have conceded a club trick immediately, while he still retained the ace. Any return can then be won in the closed hand and the ace of clubs can be cashed.

If both defenders follow, all is well and the fulfilling trick is there for the taking. If the suit doesn't break, declarer can fall back on the diamond finesse. What if, at trick two, the club finesse were to lose? There is still some faint hope for the contract. The diamond finesse must succeed and the defender with four clubs also must have length in spades.

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## Bush : We have a better chance now for a lasting world peace

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush, back from a weekend of boating and golf in Maine, is closeting himself in the White House for intensive preparations before what he predicts will be a no-surprises summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

His schedule for Tuesday and Wednesday was clear of ceremonies, speeches and other routine appointments that often crowd the president's schedule. Instead, Bush said he would spend the time in "intensive consultations" with top advisers to be sure all is ready for Gorbachev's arrival for four days starting Thursday.

"I think I know the issues," Bush told reporters Monday in Kennebunkport, Maine. "German unification, Germany's role in NATO, arms control, START, conventional forces, chemical weapons, nuclear treaties... we've got a big agenda."

Meanwhile, U.S. and Soviet negotiators tied up loose ends on a trade agreement that would let the two countries sell more to each other, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

The Soviet Union would re-

ceive the lowest available tariffs in the United States to sell more vodka, furs, textiles and other goods, and it would be eligible for U.S. government credit programs, the newspaper reported.

The United States won agreements on improved software copyright protection, faster action on getting commercial representation in Moscow and a start on repayment of the Soviets' World War II era lend-lease debts, the Times said.

A major Soviet goal for the summit has been to win most favoured nation trade status with the United States.

But Bush noted Monday that Moscow has not enacted a law relaxing emigration rules. "So I don't think that issue will be an action item. I expect it will be talked about because as they move towards a free market economy, trade with the West is

vitaly important to them." Earlier, setting out to play golf, Bush said he believes Gorbachev is "pretty darn strong" despite the tumult in the Soviet Union over plans to raise food prices sharply in a jarring move toward a free market economy.

Asked if he expected any surprises from Gorbachev, Bush said, "I don't think so," but added, "I don't know. You always hear about that. I don't think so."

Bush, who sprang a 17-point surprise package of his own at December's summit in Malta, laughed and said no when asked if he had anything up his sleeve.

He said Gorbachev "has enormous problems, but it's not our business as the United States to sort out the other person's economic problems. We've got some of our own."

And he singled out the Soviet pressure on Lithuania and the other Baltic states as "one situation that concerns me enormously."

In Paris, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas Tuesday said there could be an East-West crisis if the Western alliance failed to calm Soviet worries about a uni-

fied Germany joining NATO. Dumas said in a radio interview that he sympathised with Gorbachev's opposition to a reunited Germany's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Gorbachev has taken a suddenly tough stand on the question, saying it could upset the delicate balance of power in Europe and warning that Moscow could revise its stance on disarmament and cooperation if the West continued to discuss the idea.

"The request concerning the security of the Soviet Union is in my view legitimate," Dumas said in the Europe-1 network. "It is the duty of the West to address this concern."

"If we do not find a proper solution within a reasonable period of time there is a threat of crisis or tension between East and West," he added.

Diplomatic sources said Dumas' statements could reflect growing concern for Gorbachev's position at home or French fears.

Bush said Saturday he hoped to persuade Gorbachev to go along with the idea of Germany joining NATO during this week's Washington summit.

## Yeltsin elected president of Russia

MOSCOW (AP) — Boris Yeltsin Tuesday was elected president of the Russian Federation, the largest Soviet republic. He won 535 votes, four more than the majority he needed.

The election gives Yeltsin, 59, a visible platform from which to wage his campaign for accelerating the reforms of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who opposed his election.

The burly Siberian stood to applause from the floor of the Russian Congress of People's Deputies when the vote by the assembly was announced.

Yeltsin needed 531 of the 1,060 members to win.

His nearest rival, Russian Premier Alexander Vlasov, received 467 votes.

It was Yeltsin's third attempt to win the Russian presidency and came after he offered to create a coalition government with his conservative opponents.

He was elected by the Russian Congress, and not directly by the people.

The popular and outspoken Communist had lost the second round of voting Saturday by just 28 votes and he lost the first round Friday with 497 ballots to 473 for Krasnodar regional Communist Party chief Ivan Polozkov.

Yeltsin told the congress Monday he would invite members of the Communist Party bloc and others to "work out a deal that would please the majority of Russian deputies."

After a day of nominations and speeches, Yeltsin, Vlasov and Valentin Tsosy, a little-known businessman from the Soviet Far East, remained in the race. Vlasov had Gorbachev's support, and is seen as less hard-line than Polozkov — Yeltsin's opponent in previous rounds.

Yeltsin also called on the congress to reject the government's programme for a transition to a partial market economy, which was presented Thursday.

"The congress must take the citizens of Russia under its defence," he said, arguing that alternative programmes for the transition would not be as painful as the government proposal.

Yeltsin was quoted Tuesday as saying he believed he could reach agreement with Gorbachev.

"I believe I can still come to agreement with Gorbachev," the Finnish afternoon paper Italehti quoted him as saying in an interview Saturday.

## Armenians mourn victims in clashes

MOSCOW (AP) — Black ribbons hung from windows and cars, and somber music filled the airwaves Tuesday as Armenians mourned 24 people killed in clashes with Soviet troops.

No memorial marches were planned, said Bela Avititsyan, an editor of the official Armenian News Agency Armenpress.

In a telephone interview from Yerevan, the republic's capital, she said the streets were quiet and that they were adorned in the red, blue and orange flag of Armenia. Local radio interrupted regular programmes to broadcast only somber music, she said.

Leaders of the Armenian Communist Party and the republic's government declared Tuesday a day of mourning for those slain in Sunday's fighting between Nationalist militants and soldiers, according to Radio Yerevan and the independent Interfax news service.

Avititsyan said casualties, according to official reports, were 24 dead and 59 wounded. She did not have a breakdown of how many were killed in which incident, or know how many were civilians or soldiers.

Gen. Yuri Shatalin, the commander of Soviet forces in Armenia, accused the republic's leaders of aiding armed Nationalists who have clashed with his troops.

"Bloodshed in Yerevan is the result of open connivance of the

republican leadership and law enforcement agencies with illegal armed groups," the Soviet News Agency TASS quoted Shatalin as saying.

Shatalin told TASS the situation was "developing most unpredictably."

Accounts of the fighting varied. The Nationalists said Soviet soldiers fired on unarmed civilians. Soviet officials said Armenian militants attacked army patrols.

The Soviet evening television news programme "Vremya" Monday showed bullet-scarred walls at the railroad station and bloodstains on seats. It called the militants "terrorists."

A mass rally was held Monday by the Armenian National Movement to commemorate Armenia's 1918 declaration of independence, TASS reported, adding without elaboration that "an ominous shadow" was cast over the observation. Armenia was annexed by the Soviet Union in 1920.

In more than two years, several hundred people have been killed in violence in Armenia and neighbouring Azerbaijan. The republics have been locked in a bitter struggle for control of Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian enclave inside Azerbaijan.

Soviet soldiers have been deployed in both republics to quell the violence.



## Albanians puzzled by 'free market' at London airport

LONDON (R) — An Albanian soccer team fell foul of British police Monday after loading up on goods worth £2,000 (3,500) from an airport shop labelled "duty-free" — which the players thought meant they didn't have to pay. Police detained thirty members of the Albanian under-21 football squad at London's Heathrow Airport after the goods disappeared from shelves. "Apparently when the Albanians saw the words 'duty-free,' they thought they could take anything they wanted free of charge," an airport spokesman said. Police said they had problems finding an interpreter to question the players, who were travelling from Rome to Reykjavik for a friendly match in Iceland. "The goods have been recovered and we are not pressing charges," a Scotland Yard spokesman said. The squad were told to leave the country and escorted on to a plane to Reykjavik.

## Inflation pushes up price of crime

TOKYO (R) — Japan is considering across-the-board hikes in fines for criminal offences to keep pace with inflation, a Justice Ministry spokesman has said. "Fines have remained unchanged since 1972 and it is about time to adjust them," he said. "We are planning to set them about 2.5 times higher." Consumer prices have nearly tripled in the past 18 years, the spokesman said.

## Chitty Chitty Bang Bang leads motor rally to Peking

PEKING (R) — A 1912 Landau, nicknamed Chitty Chitty Bang Bang after the temperamental car in the film of the same name, led a bon-honking line of vintage cars into Peking after a journey of 14,659 kilometres and 52 days from London. "Chitty," the oldest of the 69 cars which left Britain, headed almost 40 tyre changes and some wheel refts as the motorcade bounced eastward along the old "silk road," but its antique engine worked like a dream, said a mechanic with the rally. Not all the cars were vintage and the one entry that failed to make it to Peking was a 1990 Lamborghini costing about \$250,000, he said. The car rally — with participation from Britain, France, Switzerland, Australia and the United States — was the first to complete the route since 1907 when one went from Peking to Paris. "It was scary crossing the Gobi Desert (in China)," said Swiss Hans Aebi, driver of a 1920 Rolls-Royce silver ghost. "There was no road markings and you just had to find your way across the shifting sands."

## Greeks 'too old to have children'

ATHENS (R) — Greece's population will drop sharply in coming years, causing severe problems for social security and pension funds, a population expert has said. "Greece has become so old it can no longer have children," George Tsiafetas, a statistics professor at Athens University, told a seminar on demographics organised by the Athens City government. The birth rate has fallen 30 per cent in the last nine years and if the trend continues the population will fall to eight million by the year 2050 from 10 million today, he said. At the present rate the fall in population will mean that by 2050 there will be the same number of people above and below 50 years old. "The problem is already evident in the deficits in social security and pension funds. Soon no government will be able to cut these deficits because those eligible for pensions will be more than half of the eligible voters," Tsiafetas said.

## Saturday night fever ends early for disco-revellers

ROME (R) — The Italian cabinet has ordered discotheques and other night clubs to close at 2 a.m. in an attempt to cut down Saturday night road deaths. On one weekend in February, 23 people were killed on Italian roads in the early hours of Saturday and Sunday, most of them young people driving home from discos and night clubs, many of which currently stay open until dawn. The government is also planning to crack down on drunk driving and limit the use of fast cars by young people. It has yet to set a maximum blood-alcohol level for drivers.

## Soviets dismantle giant radar station

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet Union has begun tearing down a giant Siberian radar station that symbolised arms control mistrust with the United States, bringing a strategic arms agreement dramatically closer.

Soviet Foreign Ministry official Vitaly Churkin disclosed Monday night that dismantling had started at the Krasnoyarsk installation, hours before President Mikhail Gorbachev left Moscow on his way to Canada and this

was the last of the START talks. "We have started this work," Churkin, a close adviser to Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, told ABC television.

President George Bush and Gorbachev hope to declare the new strategic arms reduction treaty (START) agreed in principle at the end of the summit talks

and the fate of the Radar had been a major negotiating point. "All the most difficult (START) problems will have been settled by the time Mr. Gorbachev leaves Washington," Churkin said.

Churkin said minor details on other issues remained to be worked out, but indicated the two leaders could now almost certainly declare an agreement in principle on START by the end of the summit.

The START agreement limits long-range nuclear weapons. Washington and Moscow have also linked the complex to the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) known as "star wars," to radars operated by the United States in Greenland and Britain, and to future adherence by both of them to the anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty.

From its first detection by a U.S. spy satellite in July 1983, the 30-storey-high Krasnoyarsk radar installation — described as large as an Egyptian pyramid — became one of the most important symbols of superpower disagreement on arms control.

The Washington Post, quoting U.S. sources, said proof of the dismantling emerged only in "recent days."

The Krasnoyarsk station was part of a chain of Soviet radars to detect incoming U.S. nuclear missiles.

Under the 1972 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty limiting superpower nuclear defence abilities, the radars were permitted only on the Soviet Union's border and had to point outwards.

The Krasnoyarsk radar was located 750 kilometres from the Chinese border in Siberia.

## Taiwan parliament approves new premier

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's parliament Tuesday approved the appointment of a veteran military leader as prime minister — but only after a day of violent protests in which petrol bombs were hurled at a luxury hotel and cups full of urine at riot police.

Parliament approved Defence Minister Hau Pei-tsun's appointment by 186 votes to 27 with 12 spoiled ballots, Speaker Liang Su-Jong announced.

Taiwan's premier is appointed by the president and confirmed by parliament and is not himself an elected official.

The appointment of Hau, who stepped down in December as Taiwan's longest-serving military chief of staff, has infuriated the opposition Democratic Progressive Party and its supporters.

They see it as a betrayal of President Lee Teng-hui's avowed commitment to democratic reforms.

As parliament met, about 2,000 protesters threw Molotov cocktails at buildings and burned a bus in Taipei, witnesses said.

They threw petrol bombs at the government information office building and broke many windows. They also threw petrol bombs at the Lai Lai Sheraton, where protesters earlier in the day had rampaged through the lobby.

At least two policemen and one protester were burned. There were several arrests. Witnesses said the protesters set fire to at least one bus they had commandeered.

The protesters repeatedly battled police, throwing rocks, rubbish bins, paint and cups of urine at them. Police in full riot gear responded with fierce truncheon charges and blasts from water cannon.

Several people were injured, witnesses said. Opposition politicians protesting the appointment delayed the vote for hours by filibusters and fighting.

They continued to disrupt the proceedings once voting began and disputed the counting of the ballots, witnesses said.

At one point opposition deputies forced Speaker Liang Su-Jung, 70, from his chair, which they then hurled from the dais. Liang called more than 50 police into the hall to restore order, further infuriating the opposition politicians.

"We are totally against a military general becoming premier... we cannot expect genuine political reform in the near future," said opposition member of parliament Hong Chi-Chang, who has been on a hunger strike for three days in protest at the appointment.

Hau, 71, Saturday resigned his commission as a four-star general but opposition leaders say he is still too closely connected with the military.

The opposition also objects to parliament still being controlled by members elected in China before the Nationalists fled the Communist victory in 1949.

They repeatedly said Speaker Liang had no right to preside over the meeting and the China-elected deputies had no right to vote.

The China-elected members, most in their 70s and 80s, still hold a majority of seats in the chamber and have not faced the voters in more than four decades.

## Natal violence claims 27 lives since weekend

JOHANNESBURG (R) — At least 27 people have died in running battles between rival political gangs which have flared up in the past two days in South Africa's Natal province, police and township monitors said Tuesday.

Police found nine bodies outside the town of Richmond, bringing to 21 the number of people killed in factional fighting involving up to 400 people Sunday.

The bodies of 12 others killed in the fighting at Richmond were discovered Monday in a mass grave, police said. More than 1,000 people have

died in Natal since the start of the year in clashes between supporters of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and the conservative Zulu-based Inkatha Movement.

Local human rights monitors say the fighting has entered a cycle of uncontrollable feuding, revenge attacks and banditry which often has little to do with politics.

Two blacks were burnt to death inside their home and four others were killed as violence broke out in black townships near Natal's main cities of Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

## Colombia's president-elect promises sweeping change

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian President-Elect Cesar Gaviria is set to push through sweeping constitutional reform which he believes is the only way to tackle the country's deepest crisis in recent history.

"We are going to give our institutions a historic shakeup... institutions are no more than the necessary instruments for dealing with problems," he said in a victory speech.

Although a low turnout and lack of an absolute majority for Gaviria in presidential elections Sunday deprived him of the unequivocal support he had sought for his tough anti-narcotics policy, Colombians made clear they are impatient for reform.

Ruling Liberal Party candidate Gaviria, 43, who has vowed to fight the country's feared cocaine barons to the finish, won 47.5 per cent of the vote. He picked up twice as many votes as his nearest rival, right-wing candidate Alvaro Gomez.

Colombians, in a referendum held along with the elections, voted overwhelmingly in favour of establishing a constituent assembly to reform the creaking constitution which dates back to 1886.

Gaviria echoed these desires in his victory speech Sunday night: "This country must wake up and assume responsibility for changing these institutions... to do otherwise would be to adopt an attitude of defeat in the face of rebellion and criminality."

Many politicians and academics believe root-and-branch reform of Colombia's out-moded institutions offers the only chance of making the country more democratic and receptive to change.

Proposed changes include restricting the president's far-reaching powers under a state of emergency, giving human rights guarantees, instituting congressional reforms and making voting obligatory.

Left-wing guerrilla groups are demanding constitutional reform as a precondition for peace talks with the government.

Gaviria, who spent the day after his election victory playing tennis and relaxing, was quickly reminded of the challenges he faces from armed rebels and from drug traffickers waging a nine-month-old war on the state.

Guerrillas killed 11 people, including five in two ambushes on police vehicles after the polls closed Sunday evening. Rebels are also accused of having destroyed ballot boxes and harassed election officials.

Police in the cocaine headquarters of Medellin, focus of the drug war, said gunmen shot dead three people and wounded four in a northeastern suburb.

Judicial officials also said Guido Parra, a lawyer involved in mediation attempts between cocaine barons and the government, was freed at the weekend after being detained on May 10 on suspicion of aiding drug-related terrorism.

Gaviria made clear in his speech that he intended to use the constituent assembly as a vehicle for changing institutions under attack from armed rebels.

In campaign speeches Gaviria has also called for special courts to try drug traffickers and has indicated he believes the cocaine barons should be extradited to face trial in the United States only as a last resort.

## Evidence burned in Salvador Jesuits case

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Possibly key evidence in El Salvador's probe into the slaying of six Jesuit priests last November may have been destroyed, the court in charge of the case has said.

Logs recording movements in and out of San Salvador's military academy on the night of the murders were "suspected burnt" in the weeks following the crime.

The court said the academy's then deputy director, Major Carlos Camilo Hernandez, had ordered the destruction.

One of the defendants in the murder, Lieutenant Yussury Rene Mendoza, removed the books from the academy archive and, accompanied by four unidentified officer cadets, allegedly burned them between Dec. 1 and Dec. 16 last year, it added.

But President Alfredo Cristiani, speaking at a news conference shortly after the release of the court statement, said it was not clear whether the logbooks had been burned.

He said Hernandez apparently had ordered Mendoza to make the books "available" but that their subsequent fate had not been determined.

Cristiani said he hoped the court would call Hernandez and Mendoza to testify on the question.

The logbooks could provide key evidence on who was in the military academy on the night of the killings.

The academy is at the centre of the probe into the murder of the Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter during a major offensive by leftist rebels last Nov. 16.

Eight soldiers, including Academy Director Colonel Guillermo Benavides, were arrested in January in connection with the murders.

According to extrajudicial statements by the arrested soldiers, including Mendoza, Benavides ordered the murders during a meeting at the academy on the night of Nov. 15. Benavides has said he is innocent.

The court said last month the books had disappeared and Cristiani subsequently ordered an investigation into their whereabouts. The probe has been heavily criticised over the loss of the evidence and lack of progress since the arrests in January.